THURSDAY
June 8, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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Vol.54 • No.135

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Head and Smith put Aussies in command

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Wrestlers suspend protest on Minister's assurance

Anurag Thakur tells protesters that police probe against WFI chief will be completed by June 15; FIRs registered against wrestlers on May 28 for rioting will be taken back, says Sakshi Malik

Samridhi Tewari
Mehul Malpani
NEW DELHI

After a six-hour meeting between the agitating wrestlers and Union Minister for Sports Anurag Thakur on Wednesday, a common ground has been found where the wrestlers have agreed to suspend their agitation till June 15, as the Minister assured them that the Delhi police would complete the probe by then and file a chargesheet in the case.

The wrestlers have been demanding action against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, who is facing sexual harassment charges.

Reaching out: Sports Minister Anurag Thakur talking to the media after meeting wrestlers in New Delhi. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Olympic winners Bajrang Punia and Sakshi Malik met with Mr. Thakur at his official residence in New Delhi, after he invited them for a meeting, three days after Home Minister Amit Shah met them for a similar discussion.

Mr. Thakur said he heard all their demands and assured them of full cooperation from the government.

Ms. Malik told *The Hindu* that during the meeting, they had discussions on several issues, including safety of both female and male wrestlers.

"It has been discussed that the police investigation will be completed by June 15. We have been requested to not protest till then, to which we have agreed. Mr. Thakur had agreed that the FIRs registered against us, on May 28, for rioting, will also be taken back," she said.

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Gearing up for Gruha Jyothi launch, Escoms told to recover dues from govt. departments

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

With the Gruha Jyothi scheme all set to start soon, the Energy Department is now keen on recovering dues from government defaulters. According to sources in the department, in a recent meeting, Energy Minister K.J. George instructed the electricity supply companies (Escoms) to recover the dues as quickly as possible.

According to the reply to a question given by then Energy Minister V. Sunil Kumar in the Cabinet meeting last December, various government departments owe over ₹7,771 crore in dues to the five Escoms. Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) Department, Urban Development Department, Water Resources Department, and Minor Irrigation Department were the top defaulters to the Escoms between 2019 and September 2022, showed the data provided by Mr. Kumar in the reply.

₹1,200 crore to Bescom

Between 2019 and 2022, the RDPR Department owed ₹3,312 crore while the Urban Development Department owed over ₹1,200 crore towards Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) alone.

"The new Minister has clearly told us to not cut power supply to these departments as it will cause inconvenience to the general public. As public service companies, we do not want the citizens to suffer. The recovery of dues from all government departments is important. Considering the situation, we are expecting all departments to cooperate with us in this regard," an Escom official told *The Hindu*.

The collection of arrears has come to the forefront now as the government has to cover the electricity bills of over 2.14 crore domestic consumers. "To ensure that the burden is not passed on to other categories of bill-paying consumers, the government wants to be stringent in collecting these dues," the source said.

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Lobbying in Cong. for Council seats

BENGALURU
Intense lobbying has begun in the Congress in Karnataka as eight seats have fallen vacant in the Legislative Council. The party is all set to secure six of the eight seats. » PAGE 6

Delayed monsoon leaves people stranded

SHIVAMOGGA
Residents of Karuru and Barangi hoblis in Sagar taluk are stranded because of the delayed monsoon. They are dependent on ferries to access places in the taluk. » PAGE 6

Caste census report will be received, says Siddaramaiah

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday assured a delegation that he would receive the report of the Social and Economic Survey, popularly called the caste census, conducted by the Karnataka Backward Classes Commission during 2013-18, when he led the government.

He was speaking after meeting representatives of the Karnataka Shoshitha Vargagala Maha Okkoota at his home office Krishna.

The caste-wise survey would provide the data for taking appropriate decisions about the facilities to be provided to various communities. The survey was conducted to avail of scientific and accurate information which is essential for providing reservation and other facilities, he pointed out.

Govt. hikes kharif MSP; farmers demand more

More support

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on Wednesday increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all mandated kharif crops for marketing season 2023-24

Crop	MSP 2023-24	Increase in MSP	Margin over cost (%)
Paddy	2,183	143	50
Bajra	2,500	150	82
Ragi	3,846	268	50
Moong	8,558	803	50
Groundnut	6,377	527	50

(IN ₹ / QUINTAL)
SOURCE: PIB

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre has set the minimum support price (MSP) for paddy sown in the kharif or monsoon season at ₹2,183 per quintal, an increase of ₹143 a quintal from last year's figure.

The 2023-24 MSPs for 17 kharif crops and variants were approved at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The sowing of crops, mainly paddy, has started in most States. While the Centre said that its aim was to ensure reasonably fair remuneration for the farmers and encourage crop diversification, several farmers' organisations said the increase would not cover the rising input costs.

Food Minister Piyush Goyal told presspersons after the CCEA meeting that farmers would benefit from the MSP increase at a time when retail inflation was declining.

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KIA's Terminal 1 to be refurbished soon

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

Terminal 1 at Kempegowda International Airport, which has been catering to passengers for the last 15 years, is all set to be refurbished.

The Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), the operator of the airport, will undertake a comprehensive refurbishment programme which is scheduled to commence by the third quarter of this year.

"Over the past fifteen years, this iconic terminal has enabled journeys of over 250 million happy passengers. The growing demand and evolving needs have necessitated significant enhancements and upgrades to the major facilities and utilities across T1. Many of the existing facilities are reaching their end-of-life and require modernisation to ensure an acceptable level of service (LoS)," a BIAL spokesperson told *The Hindu*.

The refurbishment of T1 at Kempegowda International Airport is expected to be executed in a phased manner with an estimated duration spreading over approximately 24 to 36 months. FILE PHOTO

The T1 was initially designed with a domestic capacity of approximately 22 million passengers per annum. However, even before the COVID-19 pandemic, the terminal was handling a significantly higher volume of passengers, reaching over 33 million passengers per annum.

"This surge in passenger traffic placed considerable strain on the terminal's infrastructure. The increased passenger volume translated to around 27 domestic departures per hour and approximately 3,900 departing passengers during peak hours. We are seeking to increase this to about 4,500 peak-hour passengers and about 35 million passengers per annum, post-refurbishment," the spokesperson added.

The refurbishment project includes the renovation and expansion of key areas, such as the security check zones and kerbside areas, to increase the overall capacity of the terminal and further improve passenger flow and touch points.

The refurbishment of T1 is expected to be executed in a phased manner with an estimated duration spreading over approximately 24 to 36 months.

To minimise the impact on passengers, BIAL will commence the refurbishment after relocating all international traffic to Terminal 2.

"With international operations moving to T2 in the coming months, we will be converting and merging the existing international areas within T1 to domestic facilities. This will involve reconfiguring spaces, adjusting security checkpoints, and providing necessary amenities to cater to the increasing demand for domestic travel, which approximately amounts to more than 85 per cent of the total passengers handled by the airport. This conversion will allow the airport to handle more passengers, which is important as domestic passenger traffic is growing rapidly at KIA," said the spokesperson.

BSNL gets ₹89,047-crore package for 4G, 5G roll-out

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a third revival package of ₹89,047 crore for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL), enabling the state-owned operator to receive spectrum in the 26 GHz, 700 MHz, 2,500 MHz and 3,300 MHz bands.

"With this spectrum allotment, BSNL will be able to provide pan-India 4G and 5G services; provide 4G coverage in rural and uncovered villages under various connectivity projects; provide fixed wireless access services for high-speed Internet connectivity; and provide services/spectrum for captive non-public network," the government said in a release.

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Curfew imposed in Kolhapur after protest

Shoumojit Banerjee
PUNE

Tension prevailed in Kolhapur city of Maharashtra on Wednesday following a violent protest by right-wing outfits over some social media status messages reportedly glorifying Mughal emperor Aurangzeb and 18th century Mysore ruler Tipu Sultan.

Authorities imposed curfew after protesters vandalised vehicles and establishments. Internet services have been suspended till Thursday evening.

On Tuesday, the Kolhapur police launched a probe into the said social media status messages allegedly objectionable to Hindu sentiments, as claimed by the right-wing outfits.

The outfits had called a shutdown in the city on Wednesday on the issue.

In the morning, a large number of activists congregated at Kolhapur city's Chhatrapati Shivaji Chowk. The protest spiralled out of control by 11.30 a.m. after some unruly elements resorted to stone throwing. By noon, a mob reportedly entered Muslim-dominated localities, threw stones, destroyed shop facades and overturned handcarts.

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No takers for RTE quota in 9 districts in 1st round of admissions

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

With the Karnataka government bringing in amendments to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (RTE Act), which prioritised government over private schools, admissions of children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups under 25% RTE reservation seats has seen a decline since 2019.

Out of 15,373 seats available under RTE quota in Karnataka in the academic year 2023-24, the Department of School Education and Literacy Public Education (DSEL) had earmarked 5,105 seats for the first round for admissions. But only 2,306 students took admission.

Out of 15,373 seats available under RTE quota in Karnataka in 2023-24, the Department of School Education and Literacy Public Education had earmarked 5,105 seats for the first round for admissions. But only 2,306 students took admission.

There is zero admission in RTE quota in nine educational districts – Bangalore North, Chikkamagaluru, Hassan, Kodagu, Madhugiri, Raichur, Sirsi, Uttara Kannada and Vijayanagar.

Out of 1,651 RTE seats available in these districts, 419 seats were earmarked for the first round. But no student has taken admission under the RTE quota.

M. Prasanna Kumar, Director (Primary Education), Department of Public Instruction told *The Hindu*, "Most applicants opted for elite schools. However, the availability of seats in those schools is very less. Students and parents are not interested to enrol in government, aided or budget private schools. Therefore, only a few students took admission in the first round." The department allotted 1,016 seats in the second round on June 6.

In a bid to provide quality education for children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups, the Union Government ushered in RTE Act. One of its provisions was reserving 25% seats under RTE quota in private schools.

In Karnataka, the Act was implemented in 2010, and rules were formulated in 2012.

However, citing shortage of students in government and aided schools, and to save on huge amount of money being paid to private schools as fee reimbursement for RTE quota students, the Karnataka government amended this Act in 2018.

Rule 4 of the RTE Act was amended to bring government and aided schools under the definition of 'neighbourhood schools', a concept which was earlier reserved only for private schools.

As per this amendment, a child can be admitted to a private school under RTE quota only if there are no government or aided school in the locality. Following this amendment, the number of RTE seats in Karnataka were reduced. Interest in admission through RTE quota has also declined.

RTE Students and Parents' Association has been demanding that the State Government reinstate the old provisions of the Act. B.N. Yogananda, general secretary of the association, said that a case related to this issue is pending in the Supreme Court.

A relentless drive for greatness has catapulted conqueror Dhoni into a common man's hero

An awe-inspiring character trait is he not only knows how to seize a passage of play with thousands of deliriously happy admirers shouting his name, but also compete just as hard if the cameras disappear

CRICKET

Ayan Acharya

M.S. Dhoni was nervous.

He was watching a familiar and, for him, once-his-bread-and-butter phase unfold in the IPL 2023 final at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. The end overs of a run chase that have been so central to his life, where he has played and won so many matches, including the biggest of his life – the 2011 ODI World Cup final against Sri Lanka – and served as the ultimate cricket talisman and guru for his teammates.

But he had never been spotted like this – the version of himself that has for the past two decades mostly been hidden from the public eye – the emotionally-laden leader of sorts. It is a quality that does not always come easily to him, and no one would begrudge one of the most scrutinised cricketers in the world if he wanted to seal off parts of himself.

Timeless icon: This season's IPL signature was the limitless affection with which the fans united behind the man wearing the No. 7 yellow jersey, irrespective of where he played. ANI, K.R. DEEPAK & GETTY IMAGES

Emotional

But these are the twilight years of his IPL career, and when the public address announcer and 70,000-odd fans are tracking every move of yours, for once, it is hard for even Dhoni to not get moved by it all. This season's IPL signature was the limitless affection with which the fans united behind the man wearing the No. 7 yellow jersey. Parochial club loyalties be damned.

Once a ticket collector with the Indian Railways and now unarguably one of the most admired superstars in a port city teeming with them in all fields, more than 1700 kilometres away from his hometown, Ranchi – who would've thought?

Dhoni, who will turn 42 in July, batted at 7 and 8 this season while nursing a knee injury. He scored 104 runs off 57 balls with 10 maximums, striking at an impressive 182.45 in 12 innings.

Asked how he stayed grounded despite such fandom around him, Dhoni said, "I think they love me for who I am. Being grounded is something they like about me. Also, because of the kind of cricket I play, everyone in the stadium feels they can play that kind of cricket because there's nothing orthodox about it. I feel they can relate to me more than anyone else. But as I said, I don't want to change myself or portray myself in a way that I'm not. So, I like to keep it simple."

Dhoni knows how to seize a passage of play with thousands of deliriously happy admirers shouting his name, but he will be happy to compete just as hard if the cameras disappear. That's an awe-inspiring character trait, but speak to those close to Dhoni, and they will tell you that growing up, his knocks, irrespective of their magnitude and the number of people in attendance, became talking points.

"What's surprising is that people generally talk about a batsman if he scores a 50 or 100... Mahendra was someone people talked about even when he was making scores of 20, 30, or 40. They would recall a long six. So, irrespective of his score, he was always the talk of the town," Adil Hussain, the former Bihar and Central Coalfields Ltd. captain, told this publication in 2019. Hussain played alongside Dhoni at the club for five years.

Athletes like Dhoni fascinate in part because they seem like proxies for us in a parallel world. Dhoni is 'Captain Cool,' 'Thala' to the legion of adoring Chennai Super Kings fans, and more for the outside world, but to the vendors back home in Ranchi, the local policemen, and the more than 1.1 million people living in the capital of Jharkhand, he is one of them. He is the shy student who knew cricket was his calling. He is the friend with a big heart, a humble family man.

Emotional impact

One also tends to underestimate the emotional impact that Dhoni's background has had on those watching the sport. For middle-class and lower middle-class fans, a big part of Dhoni's appeal is that he seems to negate the intangible divide that exists between cricketers of this age and their fans – he's just MS, the best finisher in the world, to his fans. There are seventy-year-olds who are just as happy as teenagers would be about having a chance to see Dhoni in person. The excitement is genuine.

In Ranchi, Dhoni's roots are celebrated as fondly as his name and what he has achieved. Dhoni's father had arrived in Ranchi in 1964 to work as a pump operator with MECON Ltd., a public-sector engineering firm. Dhoni, who was born on July 7, 1981, grew up in a one-bedroom apartment adjacent to the city's MECON Stadium.

At a random tea stall in Ranchi, while covering an India vs. South Africa Test four years ago, a conversation with the owner offered perspective. "*Ranchi itna chota shehar hai, ghum fir ke aap ko koi na koi Dhoni ka pehchaan wala mil hi jaega*" (Ranchi is such a small town, it is likely that you will bump into someone who knows Dhoni)."

In many ways, Dhoni has been the fearless conqueror of a world that, for the longest time, made it seem like a small-town superstar in an expensive sport would always remain a myth.

Soon after winning a record-equalling fifth IPL title as the Chennai Super Kings captain, Dhoni announced that he would not be retiring and vowed to return for at least one more season if his body allowed it.

It was a "gift" to his fans even if it was "tough" to work on his body for another nine months. In the game, Dhoni is known for his relentless drive for greatness. But in retirement, he will be remembered as the common man's hero.

Djokovic vs Alcaraz: a clash of the present versus the future

Which way will the wind blow? In a battle between the old and the new guard on Friday, the third-seeded Djokovic will look to keep it going on the red dirt of Paris while the top-seeded Alcaraz will be keen to take over. AP & GETTY IMAGES

Associated Press
PARIS

Two weeks ago, before the start of play at the French Open, the brackets were set for the tournament, and one possible semifinal match-up immediately demanded attention: No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz, the future of men's tennis, against No. 3 Novak Djokovic, the present in men's tennis.

The anticipation was not merely because it would be fascinating to see the two of them play at Roland-Garros but also to see them play each other. They've only met once, 13 months ago, with Alcaraz coming out on top.

After May 2022, Alcaraz and Djokovic are finally set to share the stage again in Court Philippe Chatrier on Friday, where they will compete for a spot in the championship match.

"Since the draw came out, everyone was expecting that match – the semifinal against Novak. Myself as well," Alcaraz said after completing his half of the bargain by outclassing Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-2, 6-1, 7-6 (5) in the quarterfinals on Tuesday night. "I really want to play that match. If you want to be the best, you have to beat the best."

Djokovic uttered that, word for word, hours earlier as he looked ahead after beating Karen Khachanov 4-6, 7-6(0), 6-2, 6-4 on Tuesday. "It's definitely the biggest challenge for me in the tournament. If you want to be the best, you have to beat the best. He's definitely a guy to beat here. I'm looking forward to that."

Only meeting

The only previous instance of Alcaraz versus Djokovic came on May 7, 2022, on red clay at the Madrid Masters. Alcaraz had eliminated Rafael Nadal in the previous round, and his 6-7(5), 7-5, 7-6(5) victory over Djokovic made him the first Spaniard to beat the two celebrated players of the sport at the same clay tournament.

The tennis world already knew about Alcaraz, but that win truly announced his arrival.

He went on to claim his first Grand Slam title at the U.S. Open in September and become the first teenager to finish a season at No. 1 in the rankings.

"He is ready to try to do big things (in) tennis. I don't know if it's going to be this tournament but, of course, I think he is ready," said Alcaraz's coach, 2003 French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero.

"He dreams very big about what he can do, so I think it's one of the most important things that he believes in himself, believes that he can go to the court and win against everybody."

While Alcaraz is seen as a star of the future, the other, Djokovic, is still very much a star of the present. His triumph at the Australian Open in January was his 10th in a span of 19 Majors (Nadal collected six of those; three other players took one apiece, including Alcaraz).

The 36-year-old owns 22 Grand Slam titles, tied with Nadal for the most in the history of men's tennis; Alcaraz (20) owns one. Friday will mark Djokovic's 45th appearance in a Slam semifinal and Alcaraz's second.

"Well, one has experience, the other one has legs," Tsitsipas observed. "One can hit huge, superbig shots, and the other one prefers control over anything else, probably control and precision, to apply pressure and just make the opponent move as much as possible."

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State govt. clarifies eligibility criterion for Gruha Lakshmi scheme

The guidelines state that women who have been already enrolled as *Yajamani* (head of the family) in Antyodaya, BPL, and APL ration cards are eligible for the scheme

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

With Karnataka government stipulating eligibility criterion for the Gruha Lakshmi scheme, families have no fresh window to choose a new woman head to avail the scheme under which beneficiaries are paid ₹2,000 a month.

The guidelines released by the government on Tuesday, stated that women who were already enrolled as *Yajamani* (head of the family) in Antyodaya, Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) ration cards, are eligible for the scheme. The guideline nowhere mentions that it will create fresh scope to decide a new head among women in families. This effectively means the government has pre-decided on the beneficiaries, going by what is stated in ration cards.

A few years back, the government decided to name the eldest woman of the family as the head with a view to plug misuse of various government benefits by men. For example, in a family of three with a son, daughter-in-law and mother, by default, the mother, who is elder to the daughter-in-law, will be chosen by the Food and Civil Supplies Department as the head of the family. The benefits will be handed over in her name.

Hence, in the Gruha Lakshmi scheme too, the elder women members of the families are set to benefit. Laxmi Hebbalkar, Minister, Child and Women Development, talking to *The Hindu*, said that in over 85% of ration cards, the elderly woman member of the family is marked as the head and she will be paid ₹2,000. The ration card will also be linked with a bank account to avoid duplication and money will be credited directly into her account.

Ms. Hebbalkar further said as already the head is identified, there is no scope for the families to now make any changes in names of the beneficiaries. In families which do not have women members, the elder male is declared as head.

A file photo of people collecting foodgrains from a ration shop. There is no scope for families to now make any changes in names of beneficiaries for the Gruha Lakshmi scheme. FILE PHOTO

No changes

A senior IAS officer who worked with the Food and Civil Supplies Department said that now, families cannot make changes to the ration card as the State rules mandate elderly women to be mentioned as head in the cards. Changes will be entertained only in case of death or living under different roofs separating from the families. The officer said the ration card has come as a major advantage to set eligibility criteria for the scheme.

It should be noted that this is in contrary to what Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar have been saying earlier. Both have been maintaining that the decision to "choose beneficiaries" is left to the families.

Gruha Jyothi: Guidelines for new houses in two days, says Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress government's flagship electricity scheme - Gruha Jyothi - is expected to benefit 2.14 crore (out of 2.16 crore) domestic consumers across Karnataka. Energy Minister K. J. George said the average consumption of these consumers is found to be around 53 units per month, per meter. Around ₹13,000 crore would be required by the government to fulfil the promise of 200 units of power for free.

Speaking to mediapersons in Bengaluru on Wednesday, the Minister said that the registration process for the scheme on Seva Sindhu portal will begin on June 15 and the window to apply for this year will close on July 5.

The guidelines for people who have either shifted houses or moved into a new house – who have not lived in the place for one year – would be announced in the next two days.

"As of today, the consumers for whom the 12-month average cannot be calculated, would have to wait for another year to benefit from the scheme, as this scenario is yet to discussed in the Cabinet. We will discuss it with the Chief Minister, and issue relevant guidelines within two days," he said.

Those who have not recorded a consumption average below 200 units in the last year, but achieve it in the upcoming months, can apply for the scheme next year.

Additional Chief Secretary, Energy department Gaurav Gupta said that Aadhaar number, connection ID and rent or lease agreement (in case of tenancy), should be submitted while applying for Gruha Jyothi scheme.

The benefits can also be availed by showing address proof on Voter's ID.

The officials mentioned that it is mandatory for consumers to link their connection ID with Aadhaar number to avail the benefits of the scheme.

Energy Minister K.J. George addressing the media along with Gaurav Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Energy Department, and other officials in Bengaluru on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Separate portal (app)

The e-governance department is expecting to receive at least 10 lakh applications for Gruha Jyothi scheme on a daily basis, and is working on building a separate portal (app) with a strong server to handle the applications without glitches.

The concerns about the Seva Sindhu portal being able to handle the number of applications which come through has been raised by many stakeholders.

Mohan Kumar, an online service provider from Dakshina Kannada, said the government must make necessary arrangements to increase server' capacity to handle large numbers of applicants applying for the schemes.

FAQs regarding Gruha Jyothi scheme answered by government

What should I (consumer) do to avail of this scheme?

One has to register on Seva Sindhu website using desktop/laptop/ smart phone, and the link will be shared soon after. The registration will begin on June 15

Can I apply for this scheme offline also?

Yes. Citizens can apply through assisted mode also, made available at Grama One, Bangalore One, and Karnataka One centres

What documents are required for applying under this scheme?

Aadhar, details of consumer ID/ account ID which are available on the electricity bill, tenancy document if you are a tenant (rental/lease agreement) or voter ID showing address of the premises

Should I pay the electricity bill for the month of June?

Yes. The benefits of the scheme will be applicable from the meter reading date on or after August 1, 2023 (for July 2023 consumption)

Mine is an apartment. Can I apply for this scheme?

Yes, if separate electricity meters are available/installed

My Aadhaar is registered outside Karnataka? Will I be eligible for this scheme?

Yes, if you are residing anywhere in Karnataka and you have the address proof of the premises, then you are eligible for the scheme

If my monthly consumption is more than 200 units, will I have to pay the entire bill amout?

Yes for that particular month alone you will have to pay the entire bill amount

KHB to build five hi-tech cities

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Housing Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed issued directions to Karnataka Housing Board (KHB) to prepare a project report for the construction of five hi-tech cities (satellite cities) on the outskirts of Bengaluru and to build luxurious villas on all four sides.

Reviewing the progress of KHB here on Wednesday, he instructed the officials concerned to prepare a detailed proposal for the construction of world-class townships on 2,000 acres in each place and also to build opulent villas on the lines of private sector due to increasing demand for houses. Land required for these two projects must be identified at the earliest, he added. The Minister asked the KHB to prepare the scheme in such a manner that there must be enough place in each satellite town would come up on 2,000 acres and there would be provision to form 30,000 sites and to build 5,000 houses. In all five satellite towns, there would be 1.50 lakh sites and 25,000 houses. The location of villas must be amidst nature and the Board must identify around 500 acres in those places. The KHB must not see the profit while preparing the housing schemes for the poor but there must not be any compromise regarding the quality of work, the Minister said.

After the meeting, Mr. Ahmed said the KHB would prepare a plan for the opulent villas. Each villa would come up on 500 acres and in total, 1000 villas would be constructed. The project would be implemented on a 50:50 partnership with landowners so that land acquisition costs would not become a burden for the Housing Board. Housing Department Secretary Ravikumar and KHB Commissioner Kavita S. Mannikeri were present.

Water adalat today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

BWSSB will hold water adalat on Thursday from 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. in parts of the city to settle issues related to water billing, delay in providing water supply and sanitary connections, delay in converting from domestic to non-domestic connection and others.

Ramaiah Sat ground control station inaugurated

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Ramaiah Sat ground control station was inaugurated on Wednesday during the National Technology Day celebrations of the Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences (RUAS).RUAS plans to build a student satellite, Ramaiah Sat and the satellite ground control station is capable of receiving data in UHF, VHF as well as S band frequencies.

A live link of the NOAA satellite tracking and downlink capability of the ground station was demonstrated during the inauguration ceremon of National Technology Day celebrations. The ground station has the capability to receive and process the downlink data from NOAA series satellites namely 15, 18 and 19.

The downlink data can be processed for weather prediction, water resource management and forest fires.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY G2

E-Tender Notice

For and on behalf of the President of India, Chief Administrative Officer (Construction) North Western Railway, Head Quarter building, Jawahar Circle, Jaipur invites online open E-tendering System (Two Stage Reverse Auction) for the following work in prescribed electronic forms:- **Tender No. : NWR-SC-TRAH-ABR-NL-T-4, Name of Work : Earth work in bank/cutting including Blanketing Construction of Major/Minor Bridges, Road Over Bridges (ROBs) & Road Under Bridges (RUBs), Construction of Platform, Platform Shelters, station building, Circulating area, offices and other ancillary works from Km. 30.00 to Km. 61.00 in connection with Taranga Hill – Abu Road via Ambaji New BG line project in Ajmer division of North Western Railway., Mode of Tender :** Two Stage Reverse Auction., **Estimated Project Cost :** Rs. 358,27,51,766.79 (Rupees Three Hundred Fifty Eight Crore Twenty Seven Lakh Fifty One Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Six and Paisa Seventy Nine only), **Bid Security :** Rs. 1,00,00,000.00 (Rs. One Crore Only), **Construction Period :** 30 (Thirty) Months, **Pre-Bid Conference Date Time :** 12/06/2023 15:00 Hrs. Venue : Office of The Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction), Mall Road, Near DRM's office, Ajmer, **Tender closing Date and Time :** 03/07/2023 11:00 Hrs., Opening date & time 03/07/2023 at 11.30 Hrs., **Website particulars where complete details of E-tender can be seen : www.ireps.gov.in, Note :** No manual tender/s will be accepted. **603-SN/23**

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E-Tender Notice

For and on behalf of the President of India, Chief Administrative Officer (Construction) North Western Railway, Head Quarter building, Jawahar Circle, Jaipur invites online open E-tendering System (Two Stage Reverse Auction) for the following work in prescribed electronic forms:- **Tender No. : NWR-SC-TRAH-ABR-NL-T-3, Name of Work : Earth work in bank/cutting including Blanketing Construction of Major/Minor Bridges, Road Over Bridges (ROBs) & Road Under Bridges (RUBs), Construction of Platform, Platform Shelters, station building, Circulating area, offices and other ancillary works from Km. 0.00 to Km. 30.00 in connection with Taranga Hill – Abu Road via Ambaji New BG line project in Ajmer division of North Western Railway., Mode of Tender :** Two Stage Reverse Auction., **Estimated Project Cost :** Rs. 393,38,20,397.20 (Rupees Three Hundred Ninety Three Crore Thirty Eight Lakh Twenty Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Seven and Paisa Twenty only), **Bid Security :** Rs. 1,00,00,000.00 (Rs. One Crore Only), **Construction Period :** 30 (Thirty) Months, **Pre-Bid Conference Date Time :** 10/06/2023 15:00 Hrs. Venue : Office of The Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction), Mall Road, Near DRM's office, Ajmer, **Tender closing Date and Time :** 01/07/2023 11:00 Hrs. Opening date & time 01/07/2023 at 11.30 Hrs., **Website particulars where complete details of E-tender can be seen : www.ireps.gov.in, Note :** No manual tender/s will be accepted. **602-SN/23**

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BUSINESS CONNECT

A Business Initiative

BEML Observe World Environment day

BEML celebrated World Environment Day at its Corporate HQ, Complexes, and Offices across the country with the motto 'Actions today contribute to a greener and more sustainable world' to align with this year's Environment Day theme 'Solutions to plastic pollution'. Various activities such as Plastic Collection, Tree Plantation, Training on Life awareness programme, and Cycle rally to spread awareness to avoid usage of plastic in daily life were conducted during the course of celebration. On this occasion, BEML family members collected old clothes from the public and distributed to the needy people. A pledge was taken by all BEMLian to spare the plastic usage from daily life to protect the environment.

CELEBRATION OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY AT KIOCL LIMITED

KIOCL and Officials of MoEF & CC celebrated jointly World Environment Day at Pellet Auditorium, Corporate Office, Bengaluru. Shri T Saminathan, CMD, Shri BK Mohapatra, D(C), Shri GV Kiran, D(P&P), Sr Officers & WIPS members planted the saplings in the premises of the Office. CMD distributed saplings to the members .

The theme for the year 2023 - Focus on solutions to Plastic Pollution under the Campaign #Beat Plastic Pollution was addressed by keynote speakers Shri T Saminathan, CMD and Shri MK Shambu, DIG(Forest)IRO MoEF& CC. Technical session on Mission LiFE was presented by Shri Suresh Kumar Adapa, Scientist -E, MoEF &CC.

Ms Shreya Gowda was felicitated by Shri T Saminathan, CMD & Shri MK Shambu, DIG (Forest) IRO MoEF&CC who won Runner up in Mission LiFE Poster Competition. Pledge was administered by Smt Tejaswini, Research Officer, IRO to the members with National Anthem. Smt Dola Bhatacharjee , Scientist, MoEF & CC compered the program & Shri R Sridhar proposed vote of thanks.

TANISHQ CELEBRATES 100 TONNES OF GOLD EXCHANGE

In the wake of rising gold prices, Tanishq, India's most trusted jewellery brand has introduced its revamped 'Gold Exchange Policy' to cater to the evolving needs of its customers amidst the volatile gold rates. The policy is valid across at all Tanishq stores and the move comes at a time when people plan to purchase gold for the Wedding season and other occasions. Speaking on the celebration, Mr. Ajoy Chawla, CEO, Jewellery Division, Titan Company Limited said, "The celebration of 100 Tonnes of gold exchanged by 2 Mn Indians across the country is a testament to the trust and loyalty bestowed upon us over the years. Exchange is good for customers given today's high prices and idle gold lying in their lockers; good for the country since it reduces imports and good for the planet as we are recycling gold. We invite all to join us in the celebrations and upcycle their old jewellery." Tanishq, India's most-loved jewellery brand from the TATA Group, has been synonymous with superior craftsmanship, exclusive designs and guaranteed product quality for over two decades. It has built for itself the envious reputation of being the only jewellery brand in the country that strives to understand the Indian woman and provide her with jewellery that meets her traditional and contemporary aspirations and desires. Attesting to this commitment towards excellence, in 2019, Tanishq has been awarded the title of The Most Trusted Jewellery Brand in India by the Trust Research Advisory. To stress on their commitment to offer the purest jewellery, all Tanishq stores are equipped with the Karatmeter which enables customers to check the purity of their gold in the most efficient manner. Tanishq offers gold and gem-set jewellery (in 22 and 18 karat gold) in over 5000 traditional, western and fusion looks. The jewellery is manufactured in a fully integrated manufacturing plant with state-of-the-art equipment. The Tanishq retail chain currently spreads across 400 + exclusive boutiques in 250 cities.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, CHAITRA PUJAR # 911, HRBR Layout, Bang–43 have changed my name from CHAITRA to CHAITRA PUJAR for all future purposes by affidavit 03–06–2023, Notary Udaykumar.K

I, REKHA Ashwin ,D/O Shivalingappa Konanavar ,R/O No 150/1,Rajarajeshwari Nagar, 6th cross, Ranibennur, Haveri–581115, have changed my name as Rekha Konanavar Shivalingappa vide afdvt dtd 06/06/23

I, MURTUZA Firoz Zakir, Father of Zahra R/o Flat No.402, 4th Floor, 5th Cross, 5th Phase, J P Nagar, Hakimi Edifice Apartment, Bangalore-560078 have changed my minor daughter's name from Zahra to Zahra Murtuza Zakir vide affidavit dated 06-06-2023 before Notary K.V.Mani, Bengaluru

I, JASHWANT S Murthy is Son of No TJ-6244K Rank SUB Name Sreenivasa Murthy M presently residing at Heelalige (Vill), Chandapura (Po), Anekal (Teh) Bangalore (Dist), Karnataka-562145 that have declared to changed my name from Jashwant S Murthy to Jeshwanth S Murthy vide affidavit dated 24 May 2023 before me Sivakumara.M.N, B'luru

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, HALEEMAH Sadiyah Mohammed Haaris, R/at No.2/40-1, Melpudhur, Kattiganapalli, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu-635002 have changed my name from Haleemah Sadiyah Mohammed Haaris to Haleemah Sadiyah vide affidavit dated 06-06-2023 before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, Bengaluru.

I, No 10490167N Rank BHM Name K Karuppaiah, resident at Vill - Venganagaram, Post - Amaratakki, Tehsil - Avadayar Koil, District - Pudukottai, State - Tamil Nadu, Pin - 614618 have changed my name from K Karuppaiah to Karuppaiah K vide affidavit dated 30 May 2023 before Sivakumara.M.N, B'luru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, DEEPA VINOD, W/o Vinod G.S, age 41 years, R/at # 2-1, 1st Floor, Lansdowne Virginia Apartment, Chokkanahalli, PO: Jakkur, Bengaluru-560 064, Karnataka, India do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **DEEPA** to **DEEPA VINOD**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **DEEPA VINOD** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated **6th June 2023, sworn before Advocate and** Notary **S. VENKATASUBBA REDDY**, at Bangalore.

PERSONAL

THANKSGIVING

ST JUDE Thanks for listening to my prayers. Please Bless always. Dilna

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Client has entered into agreement for the purchase Flat No. S-1, New Municipal No. 5C-431/4, PID No. 89-398-5C-431/4, in the Second Floor of building known as "N.S.RESIDENCY" having 1130 sq ft of SBA, constructed in property bearing No. 5C-431, in the layout formed by BDA known as HRBR Layout, 2nd Block, B'lore, with one car parking space, from its owner **Mr. MANJUNATH.H.S,** S/o., Mr. G.C. Somashekaraiah, 492/F, 7th Cross, 7th Block, Jayanagar, B'lore -11. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days of publication hereof, failing which, our client will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO & H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO
ADVOCATES
No. 57, 1st Floor, Veerapillai Street, Bengaluru-560001
Mob : 9341380225

Can you spot the quantum physics around your house?

Electrons in metallic objects have an effective temperature of tens of thousands of degrees celsius because of the Fermi energy, a concept that illustrates how much quantum physics controls the properties of everyday objects in our homes

Adhip Agarwala

"Sir, what is this Fermi energy? I can't find a reasonable explanation. Which electrons have this energy and why?"

A visibly annoyed Hardik, one of my students, asked this as I started my class the other day. Hardik is one of a few undergraduate students taking a physics department elective course in IIT Kanpur, where I teach.

That copper, a garden-variety material that runs through the network of wires in our homes and lines the bottom of a few cooking utensils, has electrons at effectively at least 50,000° C was as surprising as it was worrisome for the students. And my insistent logic to prove this by assertion was not helping.

Forty-five degrees celsius is already hot enough for the humans of Kanpur to curse at passersby. To imagine we are carrying "50,000-degree electrons" in our pockets should be difficult to contemplate. Water boils at 100° C; aluminium melts at 600° C, and 5,000° C is around the surface temperature of the sun. How then can we make sense of 50,000° C, that too inside everyday objects?

I could see why my students were upset.

Copper has an amazing Fermi energy. AURÉLIEN LEMASSON-THÉOBALD/UNSPLASH

What is quantum physics?

Quantum physics is often understood to be the physics of things that can both be 'located and absent' at a place, things that tunnel through walls, and things that can act across very large distances in an instant. But this is also a romantic conception that takes for granted, and thus overlooks, quantum physics's role in shaping the fascinating properties of the objects in our daily lives. Indeed, it offers a host of counterintuitive principles to grapple with, but it also makes some of the most quantitatively accurate predictions that we can actually test.

Take the Fermi energy of electrons in copper, for example. Quantum physics tells us that electrons are not particles like the little marbles that we play with. Instead, they are treated as waves, like the ones you see on a surface of water or that you create when you pluck a guitar string.

A wave is typically drawn like a curvy line (shaped like an 'S' but rotated 90°). Like all waves, an electron has a wavelength - the distance after which the wavy pattern repeats. The shorter an electron's wavelength, the more energy it holds. So a wave that changes smoothly has less energy than a wave that is more corrugated.

Consider this loose, and probably rather bad, analogy: you are driving a car over a series of speed bumps. If the bumps are smooth and vary slowly, you will have a lower energy. But if the bumps are sharp and modulate fast, you and your car will also oscillate faster and have more energy.

How does wave nature matter?

One of the fundamental principles of this universe is that nature is lazy. More appropriately, everything tries to minimise the amount of energy it contains. A bunch of electrons in a metal would like to do the same thing as well, to lower their energy by being waves of larger and larger wavelengths. The largest wavelength they can take is however fixed - just about the size of the metal piece.

Now, it so happens that electrons are fermions, types of particles that are bound by Pauli's exclusion principle. The principle states that not all electrons in a system can have the same wavelength.

So now the electrons have a problem.

While they want to lower their energy, they can't all have the same longest possible wavelength. They need to have different wavelengths. As we increase the number of electrons in a material, every new electron we add has to have a shorter wavelength, and thus more energy. So the more electrons there are, the more energy every additional electron will have.

What's the highest energy?

How many electrons does a simple block of metal, like a cupboard key, contain? In a metal such as copper, the copper atoms are about 10^{-10} m apart - that's ten-billionth of a metre, or one angstrom. The total human population is about 8 billion. Even if each copper atom has one electron, a cube of copper that is 1 cm to a side will have about a million billion billion electrons!

This in turn is a humongous number of electrons, which are all also behaving like waves that need to choose different wavelengths. And it turns out that the shortest wavelength they can reach is about one angstrom, about the distance between the copper atoms.

In this picture, we can estimate the energy of these highest-energy electrons: a couple of electron-volts (eV). eV is a unit of energy, just like temperature. If an object is at 27° C, we can also say that its temperature is about one-hundredth of an eV.

When electrons have such small wavelengths that they have high energies - a few eV - it translates to an effective temperature of tens of thousands of degrees celsius. This *highest energy* that the electrons are at is called the Fermi energy.

Physical manifestation?

All metals around us have exorbitant Fermi energies. Copper has a Fermi energy of 80,000° C; aluminium, 130,000° C; and silver - the beautiful *chaandi* used in auspicious objects and jewellery - about 60,000° C. Note that this is an *effective* temperature, not the *actual* temperature. A metal is of course not this hot inside.

In fact, even if you take a block of metal to -273° C - the lowest temperature possible in the universe - the Fermi energy of its electrons will remain high.

All metals around us have exorbitant Fermi energies. Copper has a Fermi energy of 80,000° C; aluminium, 130,000° C; and silver about 60,000° C. This is an *effective* temperature, not the *actual* temperature.

The Fermi energy and the fermionic behaviour of electrons (i.e. due to the exclusion principle) follows from a basic quantum mechanical principle and is at the heart of all the properties of metals we see around us and take for granted. It's crucial to understand why metals reflect light (so we can see ourselves in a mirror), why they conduct electricity (so we have lights and fans), why they heat up easily (so they are good cooking utensils), and so on.

The next time you wonder whether you've encountered quantum physics, just like Hardik who was worried about the dizzying electrons, pick up a piece of metal around you - a key, a spoon, or a pen with a metal tip - and you'll be holding a beautiful quantum material in your hand.

(Adhip Agarwala is an assistant professor of physics at IIT Kanpur.)

Representative illustration. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

In a first, scientists X-ray a single atom

Arkatapa Basu

In a phenomenal feat, scientists have for the first time identified an element by X-raying a single atom.

X-rays are an important way to identify the type of a material. Scientists have improved this technology through the years so that the quantity of a sample required for identification has become very small. Until the current experiment was conducted, at the Argonne National Laboratory, Illinois, the minimum amount required was roughly 10,000 atoms.

The reason there's a minimum amount of material required is that an atom's response to being hit by X-rays can be very weak. The more atoms there are, the better detectors can pick up on their response.

Scientists modified a conventional X-ray detector to add a sharp metal tip that would be moved to be extremely close to a sample. This is to improve the detector's ability to record any signals from the atom.

The team, led by Saw Wai Hla from Ohio University, used a synchrotron X-ray instrument developed specifically for the experiment. As samples, they used a single atom of iron and terbium, a rare earth metal, each.

The study paper, published in *Nature* on May 31, said that the scientists modified a conventional X-ray detector to add a sharp metal tip that would be moved to be extremely close to a sample. This is to improve the detector's ability to record any signals from the atom.

They used a method called synchrotron X-ray scanning tunnelling microscopy or SX-STM.

The atom was hit with X-ray photons. As expected, the electrons in the atom absorbed only photons of certain frequencies.

Photons of the other frequencies passed through. Using a spectroscope, the team determined which frequencies had been absorbed.

This absorption spectrum is unique to each element and can be used to identify it.

When electrons absorb the X-ray photons, they become excited and tunnel their way to the metal tip of the detector. There, a small voltage allows the electron to create an electric current, which is recorded and measured. In one version of the experiment, the scientists placed the metal tip as close as 0.5 nanometres from the atom.

Being able to identify a material using only one atom could, according to the group, revolutionise research in material science, quantum mechanics, and other areas.

The study also characterised the chemical states of the atoms.

They found that as a rare earth metal, the terbium atom maintains its chemical state and is isolated while the iron atom interacts heavily with its surroundings.

This is useful because rare earth metals find widespread application in electronic devices, and understanding their properties better could help researchers manipulate their atoms to greater precision.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Particle physics: describing the fundamental forces of nature

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

There are four fundamental forces of nature: electromagnetic, weak-nuclear, strong-nuclear, and gravitational forces. Which of these is the weakest force and by what factor of the next weakest force?

QUESTION 2

The _____ _____ of particle physics is the leading theory that describes three of the four fundamental forces. Fill in the blanks.

QUESTION 3

At a very high energy, the electromagnetic and the weak-nuclear forces unify to become the electroweak force. Sheldon Glashow, Steven Weinberg, and X shared the 1979 physics Nobel Prize for explaining this process. Name X.

QUESTION 4

Protons, neutrons, and electrons make up all atoms (although the hydrogen atom lacks neutrons). Protons and neutrons are in turn made of quarks and gluons. Quarks have two types of charge: electric charge and _____ _____. Fill in the blanks.

QUESTION 5

The Large Hadron Collider is a particle accelerator that helped confirm the existence of a particle called the Higgs boson in 2012-2013. What type of accelerator is it? The label is derived from the fact that the magnetic field guiding the particles is linked to the particles' kinetic energy.)

Answers to June 6 quiz:

1. Formula of Newton's second law
Ans: F = ma
2. Russian scientist who created the rocket equation
Ans: Konstantin Tsiolkovsky
3. Parameter that controls rocket's direction
Ans: Thrust
4. Chemical name of UDMH
Ans: 1,1-dimethylhydrazine
5. Term for how efficiently an engine uses the fuel mass
Ans: Specific impulse
Visual: **Shock diamond (or Mach diamond)**
First contact: Joseph Nelson | Siva Shakthi A. | Avnish Dhiman | Himanshu Verma

This is the IceCube observatory at the earth's south pole. Name the subatomic particles from outer space that it is designed to detect. CMICHEL67 (CC BY-SA 4.0)

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Lokayukta IGP inspects K.R. Circle underpass

The officer, along with BBMP officials, inspected the underpass design and checked the capability of the drainage system to carry water

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Water being released from a tanker to check the functioning of the drainage system at K.R. Circle underpass on Wednesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Lokayukta IGP Subrahmanyeswara Rao on Wednesday, inspected K.R. Circle underpass where a 23-year-old woman died after a car she was travelling in submerged in floodwaters recently.

The Karnataka Lokayukta has taken *suo motu* cognisance of the woman's death and had directed the IGP to inspect and look into the report against eight Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials, including Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath. Mr. Rao along with BBMP officials inspected the underpass, checked designs and poured water from a tanker to see the capability of the drain to carry water. He is expected to file a report to the Lokayukta.

Lokayukta Justice B.S. Patil, in his order, said that the BBMP has been entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring proper maintenance of the drains for the free flow of water. But prima facie, there has been negligence on the part of the officials concerned.

"Every citizen living within the municipal area has the right to have roads maintained in reasonable condition, which is part of the fundamental right guaranteed under Article 21 of the constitution. It is well settled that the right to life means the quality of life guaranteed under Article 21, creating the obligation and duty of the State and the authorities concerned to provide civic amenities. The municipal authorities should maintain roads and footpaths to provide pollution and obstruction-free movements on roads and footpaths," mentioned the Lokayukta order.

CCB raids shop selling e-cigarettes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Continuing their crackdown on banned tobacco items, the CCB officials on Wednesday, raided a shop and seized banned e-cigarettes along with foreign brand cigarettes worth ₹3.7 lakh. The officials also arrested two persons under Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003 for further investigations. The CCB is now trying to ascertain the sources of the cigarettes.

Based on the information, a team of officials raided the shop situated on 5th block Koramangala and seized the banned tobacco items which were being sold openly despite the central government banning the sale of e-cigarettes.

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Regional winners from each city will get products from Butterfly
Bring wrapper/ containers of RKG Ghee, Aashirvaad Atta & Bambino to the venue and get extra points.
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Presenting Partner Gold Winner | Co Presented by RKG | Powered by Butterfly | In association with AASHIRVAAD, Parry's, EVEREST | Vermicelli Partner Bambino

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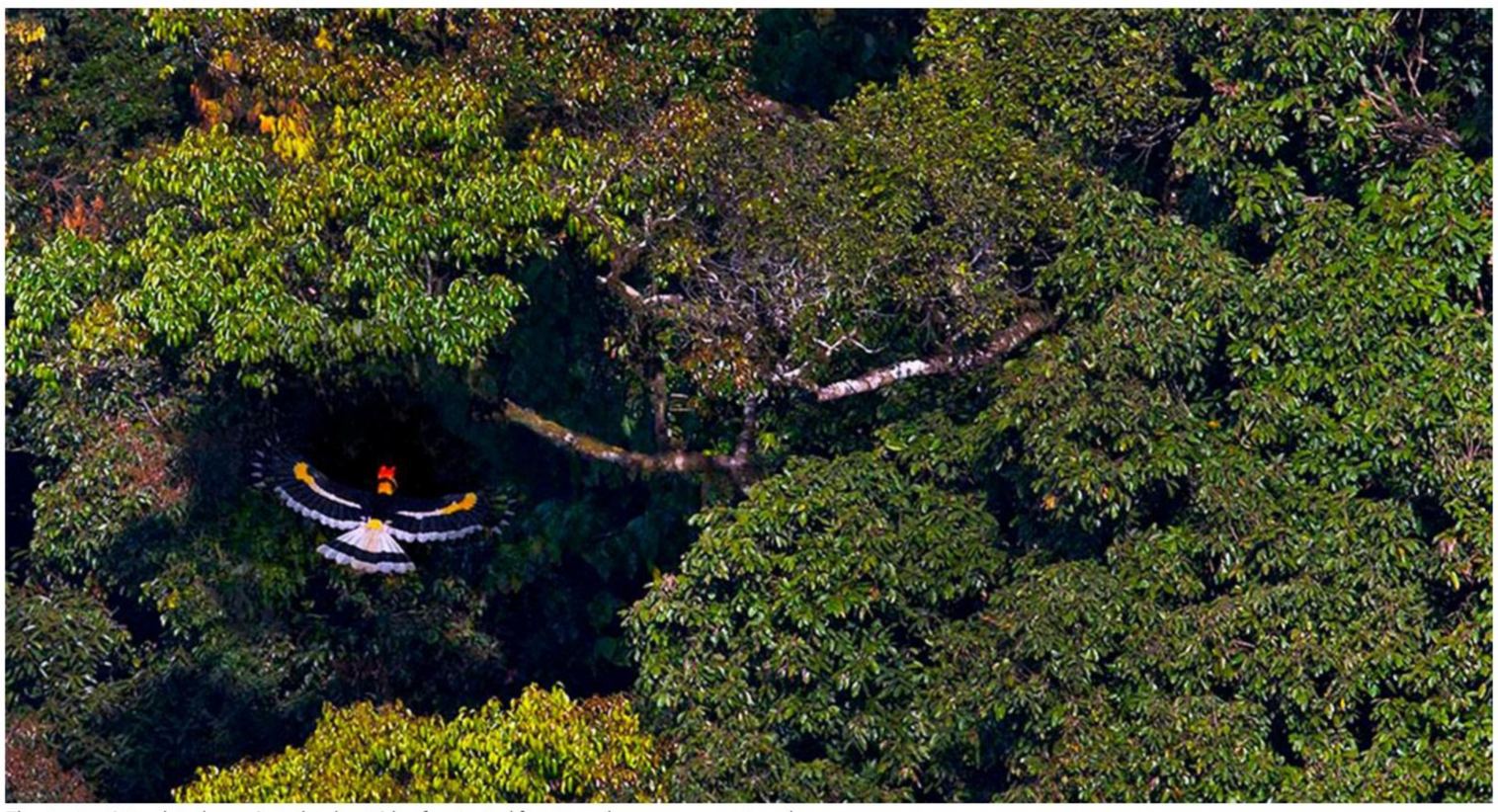
This Bengaluru start-up pitches for 'profit for the planet'

Mycelium aims to conserve 10,000 acres of the Western Ghats by 2035 and is currently finalising the registration of its first property, a 70-acre land near Pushpagiri

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU



The start-up intends to buy private land outside of protected forests and conserve or restore these spaces. ABHISHEK JAIN

When Bengaluru-based serial entrepreneur Nishanth Prasannan moved to Kodagu with his family in 2016, it was an escape from the hustle and bustle of the city.

In his own words, Mr. Prasannan, an urban dweller until then, developed quite a "romantic" association with Kodagu, which was all so green and misty. It lasted for about two years. The heavy rains and landslides that shattered Kodagu in 2018 woke him up to reality with a jolt.

Skewed concept

"The year 2018 made me realise that not everything green is beautiful," says Mr. Prasannan. When India's State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021 came out last year, environmentalists and conservation experts called out how the report had counted plantations as forests, which was misleading. "Forest cover is a skewed concept. Our landscape has been abused for years, and the abuse is not visible because it's all green."

Mr. Prasannan, along with Abhishek Jain, who is a naturalist based out of Kodagu, then started probing ways to monetise land without exploiting it. This led to the birth of Mycelium, a Bengaluru-based start-up that aims to buy private lands outside of protected forests and conserve or restore these spaces.

"We are not buying land for real estate purposes. Our idea is to look at rapidly depleting forests and pause that depletion. We are looking at private lands adjacent to forest or corridors of sorts that are prone to conflicts and then taking them off the market," says Vinod Chandramouli, who joined as a co-founder in 2019.

Co-founder Abhishek Jain

Mycelium takes the help of individuals who care for the cause and would invest money into it. They form a "collective". The money is used to buy the land and develop the habitat. "The collective members do not get demarcated pieces of land, but equity in the company," Mr. Chandramouli clarifies.

The start-up aims to conserve 10,000 acres of Western Ghats by 2035 and is currently finalising the registration of its first property, a 70-acre land near Pushpagiri. Named Dancing Frog Habitat, it has four collective members as of now.

According to the founders, 80 per cent of the land would be conserved as a pristine forest, while in the remaining 20 per cent, there would be facilities enabling the co-existence of humans with nature. The team is looking at revenue models such as forest experiences for communities, building interpretation centres, organising treks and building a marketplace of forest produce. The private forest would also be open for research purposes.

The team at Mycelium attempts to identify fast-depleting forests and pause that depletion. ABHISHEK JAIN

"The idea is to not attract urban dwellers to come and take selfies but to build a narrative that inspires them. Buying organic honey is considered cool today, but can we shift the narrative from buying honey to adopting a beehive? That's what we are trying to do," Mr. Chandramouli says.

The Mycelium team is building an advisory group that would guide the team and build a playbook that the founders hope would enable more people to replicate the same in other parts of the country. The ground-level execution would be with the help of the local community, say the founders.

Not new concept

Private forests are not entirely a new concept in India. In the 90s, a group of nature lovers came together to develop Vanvadi, a forest about 90 km from Mumbai. In 2021, Bengaluru-based entrepreneur Suresh Kumar converted 21 acres of barren land in Sagar into a forest with the help of environmentalist Akhilesh Chipli.

There have also been quite a few takers for forests inspired by the Miyawaki method in different parts of the country. Private forests adorned headlines in 2017 when Bollywood celebrities Saif Ali Khan and Kareena Kapoor gifted their son Taimur Ali Khan a forest on his first birthday.

Mycelium founders try to marry the concept with their entrepreneurial capabilities, build systems into the process of conservation, and make it economically sustainable. "We are exploring if there are ways to make a for-profit conservation narrative," says Mr. Chandramouli.

In 2018, the Karnataka government proposed the Karnataka Private Conservancies Rules-2018, which encouraged private conservation lands adjoining national parks and wildlife. The policy was vehemently opposed by environmentalists and conservationists who feared it would lead to encroachment of protected forested areas, circumvention of eco-sensitive zone regulations and increased man-animal conflict. Increased greenwashing attempts by corporates have also been making experts sceptical about for-profit conservation initiatives.

"Be it privately or government-owned land, if the forces are strong enough for changing land use, invariably land use gets changed in India. From a bird's eye view, such initiatives come with several potential risks as too many elements are beyond the control of well-meaning investors. What are near these private forests? Are there human settlements? What if potentially dangerous animals start coming into these lands? Will it lead to increased human-animal conflict? Who would then be responsible? All these are issues that need to be thought through," says Ravi Chellam, coordinator, Biodiversity Collaborative and CEO, Metastring Foundation.

He adds it is vital for such initiatives to invest in and empower local communities and not end up dispossessing them of their lands and restricting their access to these lands and the forest resources they offer.

"There are also concerns related to justice and ethics at a broader scale because such efforts are in some sense resulting in consolidation of wealth by the wealthy."

Nityanand Jayaraman, an environmental activist, echoes similar concerns. "Given that the market is a cause of the crisis, trying to solve it again using the market is concerning. Even if your aim is conservation, the idea is essentially profits. There's an ecological and social crisis here which are both interlinked. Such initiatives marginally address the ecological issue but do not address the social issue."

No funding

Mycelium founders, however, think differently and emphasize that the initiative will enable the locals to engage with them and tap into their knowledge. Prasannan says, "We have been really tight-fisted about the kind of funds we have been using. We are absolutely sure that we will not take financial institutional funding. If someone gives the money and says they want 'x' per cent returns, then there's no investment into the cause."

Mr. Chandramouli adds, "If we were to let this land become a coffee estate, it would have a larger impact on the Pushpagiri region than it would have if you take it off the market. Any collective member who comes in is heavily gatekept. We tell them from day 1 that this is not a real estate team and to not expect the appreciation of the land to go from 'x' to 'y'. Nor is money going to come in as interest. These 70 acres are for the next 100 to 300 years."

> The idea is to not attract urban dwellers to come and take selfies but to build a narrative that inspires them. Buying organic honey is considered cool today, but can we shift the narrative from buying honey to adopting a beehive? That's what we are trying to do.
>
> **VINOD CHANDRAMOULI,** Co-founder

> We have been really tight-fisted about the kind of funds we have been using. We are absolutely sure that we will not take financial institutional funding. If someone gives the money and says they want 'x' per cent returns, then there's no investment into the cause.
>
> **NISHANTH PRASANNAN,** Co-founder

Demand for speed breaker after vehicles injure stray animals

The residents say that the incidents occur more during the night, early hours of the morning, and during weekends

Sarah Subash
Aditya P.
BENGALURU

Residents say a speed breaker will force motorists to slow down their vehicles. REPRESENTATIVE PHOTO

Citizens who live in a residential pocket of HBR Layout have had to contend with speeding vehicles on cross roads, which has led to high fatality of stray animals, especially dogs.

A community of dog lovers in the layout that takes care of the strays in the area have raised the issue of how there have been several accidents involving dogs.

"Several puppies have been killed instantly by speeding cars. Older dogs have survived encounters at the cost of multiple injuries. One dog is deaf due to an accident, leaving him at the mercy of the cars he doesn't see. Due to this, he recently injured his front leg and has to limp around with a bandage. This is just one of the many dogs in the street that have faced serious injuries," said Rakshitha Govindaraju, resident and entrepreneur.

"Those in danger of being hurt are also children, who can only play on the street, and elderly people, who will not be able to move fast enough to avoid any speeding vehicle," noted Jayesh, a security guard on the road.

According to residents, the road, which is lined with apartments, has seen an increasing number of speeding incidents since the road was tarred again in the previous months. They also said that such incidents occur more during the night, early hours of the morning and during weekends.

Ms. Govindaraju said, "In the nights in particular, you can hear people drift, you can hear tires screeching. Most of these roads are very homely, they have small, regular houses but ours is the only one which has apartments. This allows drivers, generally those going to the end of the lane, to speed through it, putting everyone in their path at risk."

"The accidents have been happening for many years. These people go by at high speeds and don't listen to anyone," said Selvi and her husband, who own a shop in the lane. The residents noted that the lack of streetlights at night increases the safety concerns. "Repeated appeals to the drivers to slow down have been unsuccessful," said Manjula, a resident.

BBMP's response

The residents of the area are clear as to what they think the main solution is; the addition of a speed breaker on the 24th Cross road (where most speeding incidents are observed) in order to slow down vehicles. However, their letters requesting the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for the same have not yielded any results, despite receiving a response from the Chief Civic Commissioner's office saying that appropriate action would be taken by the zonal officers. When contacted, the East Zone BBMP officials said, "Speed humps can be put by the traffic engineering cell (TEC) at head office as per the request. Will send the letter through chief engineer to TEC in another one or two days to take immediate action to put speed humps." The residents are awaiting the resolution of the issue as assured by officials.

The incidents of dogs being run over by speeding vehicles have been continuously flagged by animal activists in the city, especially in the last couple of years. Speaking about the same, Arun Prasad, a social activist, said, "The most important thing is to sensitise the public to their responsibility when it comes to animal-related accidents. He has also been pushing for a section about the ethics of driving from the RTO at the time of issuing licences to educate the public further.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 8, 1973

Issue of Transport Permits: Deve Gowda's charge

BANGALORE, June 7: The Leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly, Mr. H.D. Deve Gowda, alleged here yesterday large-scale corruption in the issue of permits to private transport operators to run contract carriages. He said the Government had failed to run the nationalized Road Transport Corporation efficiently and was giving away a large number of permits. Speaking to pressmen, he demanded withdrawal of the permits. He urged the Government to safeguard the ₹30 crores invested in the Road Transport Corporation. Opposing any rise in fares, Mr. Deve Gowda said that the MSRTC should be run efficiently. He said the Government had not furnished the number of permits it had given to private operators in spite of repeated demands in the Assembly.

Justice Bhat sworn in

BANGALORE, June 7: Mr. Justice G.K. Govinda Bhat was sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Mysore High Court to-day. The Governor, Mr. Sukhadia, administered the oath of office to Mr. Justice Bhat at the Raj Bhavan this morning. Among those present were the Chief Minister of Mysore, Mr. Devaraj Urs, his cabinet colleagues, all the Judges of the High Court and members of the Bar.

Over 100 children fall sick due to suspected water contamination

After signs of contamination were evident in water testing, the report was submitted to the builder, but no action was taken, said a resident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many as 120 children fell ill due to suspected water contamination in an apartment complex on Hosa Road in Choodasandra near Electronics City since Monday.

A team from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) health department and Singasandra Primary Health Centre (PHC) visited the apartment to take stock of the situation. A team of health officials and doctors have been asked to monitor the situation on Thursday too. The children and a few senior citizens started to complain of diarrhoea and vomiting, following which they were taken to hospital.

Praveen Nair, a resident, talking to *The Hindu* said the children started falling sick with symptoms like vomiting, diarrhoea and fever since Monday morning. The doctors whom the parents consulted told that the children fell ill after consuming contaminated water.

Mr. Nair said that in absence of a proper water treatment plant and tank not being cleaned, water was contaminated. The apartment sources water from a borewell and water tankers.

Several children and a few senior citizens started to complain of diarrhoea and vomiting since Monday at an apartment complex in Electronics City, Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Another resident said that his neighbour's child was suffering from viral gastroenteritis and alleged it was caused due to either food poisoning or water contamination. With no mass event held at the apartment, the residents suspect water contamination.

Water tested in March

The resident further said that in March, the apartment society got the water tested and the result showed signs of contamination. The report was submitted to the builder to fix the problem, but no action was taken. He said the apartment is plagued with several issues.

Dr. Naveen K., a medical officer from Singasandra PHC, said he had sent a team to monitor the situation.

"We are suspecting that the children fell ill due to water contamination, but it can only be confirmed after proper tests. No child is in danger and all are under medical care. They got medicine from nearby OPDs. The team will continuously monitor their health."

(With inputs from Aditya P. and Hrutwi Kshirsagar.)

Seer files complaint against woman for cheating; says she borrowed over ₹35 lakh from him

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Dobbespet police have registered a case of extortion against a woman for allegedly cheating a seer of Kambalu Samsthana Mutt on the outskirts of the city, after befriending him on Facebook.

Based on the complaint filed by the seer, the police have registered a case against Varsha who later turned out to be Manjula. The woman, posing as a hotel management student and orphan, befriended the seer on Facebook, three years ago, and used to chat with him regularly.

The seer, in his complaint, said that she had borrowed over ₹35 lakh from him on the pretext of education and other purposes.

The incident came to light when she messaged the seer claiming that she had been under attack and admitted to a private hospital and asked money to be transferred for medical emergency.

When the seer on suspicion sent his acquaintance to the hospital to check, he came to know that she was lying. When confronted, the accused started blackmailing and demanding more money following which the seer complained to the police seeking detailed investigations.

The police are yet to track down the accused but she is said to have obtained anticipatory bail.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, JUN. 08
RISE 05:53 SET 18:45
RISE 23:08 SET 09:56

FRIDAY, JUN. 09
RISE 05:53 SET 18:45
RISE 23:55 SET 10:58

SATURDAY, JUN. 10
RISE 05:53 SET 18:45
RISE 00:00 SET 11:55

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	27
Mysuru	33	22
Bengaluru	32	23

Bengaluru Today
33°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm and humid. Chances of rain and thundershower with gusty winds. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
32°C The weather will be little warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain or thundershower with gusty winds to occur.

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THE HINDU
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Gun-runner trying to sell pistols, arrested

The weapons recovered from an event organiser by Cubbon Park police on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Cubbon Park police on Tuesday, arrested a city-based event organiser and recovered three pistols and 99 rounds of live ammunition from him.

The accused, Niraj Joseph, a native of Kerala, working for an event management company, told the police that he had sourced the weapons from his contacts in the North-East. The police have taken him into custody and are now trying to ascertain his network.

The accused Joseph was caught by PSI, Ishwar Vannur, while he was waiting in a car for his client to deliver the weapons at the bus stop on Queen's Road.

The weapons look factory made and investigations are on to ascertain his network, a senior police officer said, adding that the police are also verifying his criminal background.

Text & Context
A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (June 8, Thursday), the following explainer is available:

- What will it take for an Indian city to become low carbon? **bit.ly/lowcarboncityexplain**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

SRI KARAN NARENDRA AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY
(SKN Agri-Business Incubator)
JOBNER - 303329, DISTT.- JAIPUR (RAJ.)
E-Mail: pi.sabi@sknau.ac.in

No.F.( )/Estt./RKVY/S-ABI/2023-24/25 Dated: 01.06.2023

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

A walk-in-interview will be held in the Office of Principal Investigator, SKN Agri-Business Incubator, SKN College of Agriculture Campus, Jobner, Jaipur on 14.06.2023 at 10.00 A.M to engage one Business Executive on fixed emoluments basis under RKVY- Agri - Business Incubator (R-ABI). The engagement shall be purely on contract basis and is co-terminus with the project. However, it can be terminated without prior notice at any time.
The details about qualifications, experience, emoluments and other terms & conditions may be seen at the University Website: www.sknau.ac.in. or www.sabijobner.co.in

Raj.Samwad/C/23/3652 PI (S-ABI)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, our client viz., **Sri. D. V. Suresh** is/was the absolute owner of the land bearing **Sy. No. 5/10 (Old Sy. No. 5/2),** measuring **2 Acres 13 Guntas**, **Sy. No. 5/3**, measuring **0-16 Guntas, Sy. No. 5/5,** measuring **0-06 Guntas**, **Sy. No. 141/7**, measuring **0-37 Guntas**, **Sy. No. 143/4 (Old Sy. No. 143),** measuring **1 Acre 35 Guntas**, situated at Kammasandra Agrahara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District. Our client had lost/misplaced the below mentioned Original Documents pertaining to the aforesaid Property. Our client has lodged the Police Complaint in concerned Police Station. Any person/s having or claiming any manner of right, title & interest over the above said Property or on below mentioned original documents may intimate the same in writing to the under signed along with documentary evidence in support of their claim within 10 days from the date of this publication, failing which, it will be presumed that below mentioned original documents are lost and our client and successors in interest or any other person/s claiming under it/him are free to deal with above said Property. As if no valid claims are subsisting against above said Property.
It is hereby informed that, the General Public are restrained from transacting the above said Property except our client or his nominees/successors in interest. If any person holding the below mentioned Documents may kindly contact the undersigned at the earliest.

SI NO	Date	Description of Documents
		SY. NO. 5/10 (OLD SY. NO. 5/2)
1.	22-01-1973	Absolute Sale Deed executed by Sri. Pilla Reddy, son of Sri. Appanna Reddy, in favour of Sri. Appaiah Reddy, son of Sri. Appanna Reddy, registered vide Document No.737/1973-74 of Book I, Volume 1193, at Pages 206 to 208, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal, Bengaluru Urban District.
2.	05-10-1977	Settlement Deed executed by Sri. Pilla Reddy, son of Appanna Reddy, in favour of Sri. Rama Reddy alias Ramachandra Reddy, Smt. Seethamma, and his children registered vide Document No. 1340/1977-78 of Book I, Volume 1270, at Pages 116 to 119, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
3.	06-04-2006	Absolute Sale Deed executed by Sri. Nanja Reddy, son of Late Pilla Reddy and others in favour of Sri. D. V. Suresh, son of Sri. Subramaniam, registered vide Document No. ANK-1-04359/2006-07 of Book I, stored in C. D. No. ANKD119, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
4.	02-08-1967	Continuing Mortgage Bond executed by Sri. Pilla Reddy, son of Late Appanna Reddy, in favour of Kasaba Large Scale Anekal Co-operative Society Limited, Anekal, registered vide Document No. 2055/1967-68 of Book I, Volume 838, at Pages 68, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
5.	03-11-1967	Register of Non-Testamentory Documents Relating to Immovable Property, registered vide Document No. 2940/1967-68 of Book I, Volume 1066, at Page 10, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
6.	05-03-1986	Form – 3 ; Form of Declaration executed by Sri. Nanja Reddy, son of Sri. Pilla Reddy, in favour of Syndicate Bank, Bengaluru, registered vide Document No.107, filed in SF Vol. 95 at Page 104 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal Taluk.
7.	06-02-2001	Form – 3 ; Form of Declaration executed by Sri. Nanja Reddy, son of Sri. Pilla Reddy, in favour of Syndicate Bank, Bengaluru, registered vide Document No.119, filed in SF Vol. 118 at Page 28 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal Taluk.
8.	10-12-2001	Form – 3 ; Form of Declaration executed by Sri. Nanja Reddy, son of Sri. Pilla Reddy, in favour of Syndicate Bank, Bengaluru, registered vide Document No.98, filed in SF Vol. 118 at Page 151 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal Taluk.
		SY. NO. 5/3
1.	15-02-1988	Sale Deed executed by Sri. Gureddy, son of Sri. Nanjareddy and Smt. Gowramma wife of Sri. Gureddy in favour of Sri. Venkataswamy Reddy, son of Sri. Venkatareddy and Smt. Sujatha, wife of Venkataswamy Reddy registered vide Document No. 2039/1987-88 of Book I, Volume 1485, at Pages 49 to 53, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
		SY. NO. 5/5
1.	15-04-1978	Sale Deed executed by Sri. Chinnappa Reddy and Sri. Rama Reddy both sons of Sri. Pilla Reddy, in favour of Sri. Nanjunda Reddy, son of Sri. Musa Reddy, registered vide Document No.716/1978-79 of Book I, Volume 1281, at Pages 109 to 111, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
2.	02-08-1967	Continuing Mortgage Bond executed by Sri. Pilla Reddy, son of Late Appanna Reddy, in favour of Kasaba Large Scale Anekal Co-operative Society Limited, Anekal, registered vide Document No. 2055/1967-68 of Book I, Volume 838, at Pages 68, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
3.	03-11-1967	Register of Non-Testamentory Documents Relating to Immovable Property, registered vide Document No. 2940/1967-68 of Book I, Volume 1066, at Page 10, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
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5.	06-02-2001	Form – 3 ; Form of Declaration executed by Sri. Nanja Reddy, son of Sri. Pilla Reddy, in favour of Syndicate Bank, Bengaluru, registered vide Document No.119, filed in SF Vol. 118 at Page 28 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal Taluk.
6.	10-12-2001	Form – 3 ; Form of Declaration executed by Sri. Nanja Reddy, son of Sri. Pilla Reddy, in favour of Syndicate Bank, Bengaluru, registered vide Document No.98, filed in SF Vol. 118 at Page 151 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal Taluk.
		SY. NO. 141/7
1.	07/04/2006	Sale Deed executed by Sri. Chinnaswamy, son of Late Ankanna and others y in favour Sri. D. V. Suresh, son of Sri. Subrahmanyam, vide Document No. ANK-1-01155-2006-07 of Book I, CD No. ANKD12, at Page 12, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
2.	23/09/1967	Mortgage Deed executed by Sri. Chinnaswamy and others in favour of Kasaba Dodda Prasthapa Vyavasaya Co-operative Society Ltd., Anekal registered vide Document No.2361/1967-68, Volume – 838, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal Taluk.
3.	10/07/1968	Mortgage Deed executed by Sri. Chinnaswamy in favour of Large-Scale Co-operative Societies Ltd., Anekal registered vide Document No.1336/1968-69, Volume – 1132, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal Taluk.
		SY. NO. 143/4 (OLD SY.NO.143)
1.	11-08-1964	Partition Deed executed by Sri. M. Narayanappa, Sri. M. Venkateshalu, Sri. M. Venkataramanappa and others is registered vide Document No. 1486/1964-65 of Book I, Volume No. 997, at Pages 114 to 118, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
2.	05-10-1977	Settlement Deed executed by Sri. Pilla Reddy in favour of Sri. Ramachandra Reddy and others registered vide Document No. 1340/1977-78 of Book I, Volume 1270, at Pages 116 to 119 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
3.	24-12-2018	Agreement of Sale executed by Sri. Manjunath Reddy and another guntas in favour of Sri. Chandrashekhar Reddy registered vide Document No. ANK-1-06701/2018-19 of Book I, stored in CD No. ANKS451, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
4.	03-02-2021	Cancellation of Agreement of Sale entered between Sri. Manjunath Reddy and another with Sri. Chandrashekhar Reddy registered vide Document No. ANK-1-06229/2020-21 of Book I, stored in CD No. ANKD970, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
5.	28-01-1963	Sale Deed executed by Sri. A. Papi Reddy in favour of Sri. Narayanappa, registered vide Document No. 2571/1962-63 of Book I, Volume 958, at Pages 168 to 170, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal with respect to portion of the Subject Property, measuring 2 ¾ guntas.
6.	29-10-1971	Sale Deed executed by Sri. Narayanappa in favour of his brother Sri. Chinnaswamy registered vide Document No. 2090/1971-72 of Book I, Volume1162, at Pages 174 and 175, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal with respect to portion of the Subject Property, measuring 2 ¾ guntas.
7.	19-06-1967	Sale Deed executed by Sri. N. Venkataramanappa in favour of Sri. Chinnaswamy, son of Sri. Ankanna registered vide Document No. 2000/1967-68 of Book I, Volume 1064, at Pages 61 and 62, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal with respect to portion of the Subject Property, measuring 03 guntas.
8.	01-07-1968	Sale Deed executed by Sri. S. Thimmaiah in favour of Sri. Chinnaswamy, son of Sri. Ankanna. The said Sale Deed is registered vide Document No. 1182/1968-69 of Book I, Volume1086, at Pages 07 to 09, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal with respect to portion of the Subject Property, measuring 03 guntas.
9.	07-02-1966	Mortgage Deed executed by Sri. M. Venkatappa in favour of Sri. Pilla Reddy registered vide Document No. 2770/1965-66 of Book I, Volume 1025, at Pages 33 and 34, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
10.	22-01-1992	Form of Declaration form executed by Sri. Pilla Reddy in favour of Syndicate Bank registered vide Document No. 106/1991-92, Volume No. SF105/39, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
11.	20-12-1999	Form of Declaration form executed by Sri. Pilla Reddy in favour of Syndicate Bank registered vide Document No. 285/1999-2000, Volume No. SF117/78, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
12.	08-02-2001	Form of Declaration form executed by Sri. Pilla Reddy in favour of Syndicate Bank registered vide Document No. 119/2000-01, Volume No. SF118/28, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
13.	11-02-2001	Form of Declaration form executed by Sri. Pilla Reddy in favour of Syndicate Bank registered vide Document No. 99/2001-02, Volume No. SF118/152, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.

And whereas anyone finding the above documents, is hereby requested to hand over the same to the undersigned person at the address below mentioned.
Dated this 07th day of June 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2,
H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914 Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, N R Square, Annexe Building - 3, Bengaluru

No: DCF/PR/279/2023-24 **Date: 07.06.2023**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the Citizens of Bengaluru that the CE/ORR/PH-2A/PI, BMRCL, has submitted an application to the undersigned for removal of trees standing at the LHS/RHS Service Road Area extending from Agara Port Piers to Ibbalur Port Piers for BMRCL Phase 2A, Package-1 & Phase-3A Works, Bengaluru. The details are given below.

Name of the project	**Construction of Elevated Structures (Viaduet & Stations), including Road Widening, Utility Diversion and Allied Works and Construction of Loops, Ramps for Road Flyovers at CSB Junction including Road Widening & Allied Works in Reach 5 Line and Phase 3A Works.**			
Name of the Agency	Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) Bengaluru			
Purpose for removal of trees	The trees standing on the LHS/RHS Service road area extending from Agara Port Piers to Ibbalur Port Piers are coming within the BMRCL project area, Phase 2A, Package-1 and Phase 3A Works, Bengaluru.			
Description of the area with clear demarcation of boundaries or with GPS readings	**Side**	**Latitude (N)**	**Longitude (E)**	**Location**
	LHS	**12.92361**	**77.65527**	Starting from Agara to Ibbalur Port Pier Area
		12.92305	**77.65550**	
	RHS	**12.92000**	**77.66444**	Starting from Ibbalur to Agara Port Pier Area
		12.92055	**77.66416**	
Enumeration of trees • Total Number of trees standing in the project area	15 Nos (Annexure 1)	Description of Trees, Species, Location, Area, etc., are uploaded in the website of BBMP for information of all (www.bbmp.gov.in)		
• Total Number of trees proposed to be removed	15 Nos (Annexure 1)			
Mode of communication of comments *(Public can send their comments either by E-mail / Post / Hand)*	**Address:** The Deputy Conservator of Forests & Tree Officer, BBMP, N.R Square, Bengaluru-560002. **E-mail id: 1. dcfbbmp12@gmail.com** for Tree Officer, BBMP **2. msuresh@bmrc.co.in** for CE/Ph-2A/PI, BMRCL *Comments communicated directly to BMRCL, should also be marked to the Tree-Officer/DCF, BBMP			
Deadline for Filling Objections	Ten (10) days from the date of publication of this notification in the Newspaper ***Objections/Comments/Suggestions should be relevant and specific to the project**			

In view of the above, the suggestions/objections/comments are invited from citizens under Section 8 (3) (vii) of the Karnataka Preservation of Tree Act, 1976.

Sd/- Tree Officer,
Deputy Conservator of Forests, BBMP, Bengaluru

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Stressed Assets Recovery Branch
No.11/90, 3rd Floor, Opp Trust Well Hospital,
J.C. Road, Bengaluru -560 002, Tel:080-25943663,
Fax: 25943664, Email ID: sbi.05173@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE

Under Rule - 8 (1) (For immovable properties)
A/c Nos.CC 62085951693, WC 40507560447 FITL 40507441817, GECL 39407083535

WHEREAS, the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, SME Jayanagar Branch, Bengaluru, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **03.01.2023** calling upon the borrower, **M/s Nesara Creations Pvt. Ltd., Regd. Office:** No.1788/23, 5th Main, 9th Cross, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore – 560104 and Guarantors/Mortgagors **(1) Shri Suresh H M,** S/o Shri Mayarangiah, Managing Director,**(2) Smt. Rashmi K L,** W/o Shri Suresh H M, Director,**(3) Shri Mayarangiah,** S/o Shri Mayanna, **All No.(1), (2) & (3) are Residing at:** No.429, 2ndA Cross, 6thMain, 3rdStage, 3rdBlock, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru – 560079**(4) Smt. Sharadamma**, D/o Shri Mayarangaiah, Director, **(5) Shri Lakhman K B,** S/o Shri Bettaiah,**Both (4) & (5) are Residing at:** No.1/1A, 6thMain Road, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru – 560079**(6) Smt. Ramya K L,** W/o Shri Abhiram B N, No.101, 'Arya Orchid', 28/29/30 Haralakunte, HSR Layout, Sector -2, S. S. Palya, Bengaluru – 560102 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.6,05,63,837/- (Rupees Six Crore Five Lakh Sixty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Seven Only) as on 03.01.2023** and future interest at contractual rate from **04.01.2023** together with incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc. within 60 days from the date of the said notice. For administrative convenience of the Bank, the borrower's loan accounts are now maintained at Stressed Assets Recovery Branch (SARB), J C Road, Bengaluru, of the Bank. Therefore, the undersigned being Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, J C Road, Bengaluru, is competent to issue this notice under the said Act.
The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors having failed to repay the amount in full as mentioned in the Demand Notice, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section13 (4) of thesaid Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **07.06.2023.**
The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with these below mentioned immovable properties and any dealings with the said immovable properties will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount of **Rs.5,55,78,580/-** (Rupees Five Crore Fifty Five Lakh Seventy Eight Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Only) excluding outstanding contingent liabilities as on 28.05.2023.

S. No.	Account Number	Dues as on 28.05.2023
1	Cash Credit (Stock & Receivable), **A/c No.62085951693**	**1,18,71,518.00**
2	Working Capital Term Loan, **A/c No.40507560447**	**3,35,00,873.00**
3	FITL**A/c. No40507441817**	**28,78,714.00**
4	GECL **A/c. No 39407083535**	**73,27,475.00**
	Total dues as on 28.05.2023	**5,55,78,580.00**

and future interest at contractual rate from **29.05.2023, cost charges etc. thereon.**
The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.
DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
Property No. 1: (belonging to Shri Mayarangaiah)
All that piece and parcel of Residential building situated at No. 429, 2nd 'A' Cross, West of Chord Road, 3rd Stage, 3rd Block, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru, Admeasuring East to West 60feet and North to South 40feet and Total Area of 2400 Sq. feet together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and standing in the name of Shri Mayarangaiah, S/o Shri Mayanna, vide Absolute Sale Deed dated 30.06.1992 by Bengaluru Development Authority and Registered as Document No.1250/1992-93 and dated 01.07.1992 at SRO, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru and bounded on: East by : Road, West by : Site No. 444, North by : Site No. 428, South by: Site No. 430
Property No. 2 : (belonging to Shri Lakshman K B)
All that piece and parcel of residential property situated at 1/1A, Western Portion, 6th Main, 3rd Stage, 3rd Block, Basaveshwarnagar Bangalore 560079, measuring East to West 25 feet and North to South 40 feet and totally 1000 Sq. feet standing in the name of Shri Lakshman B., S/o Shri Bettaiah, vide Sale Deed dated 09.02.1995 and Registered as Document No.10814/1994-95 dated 09.02.1995 at SRO, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded on: East by: Remaining portion of same property, West by : Property belonging to Shri Mohan Lal, North by : belonging to Shri Ameersab, South by : BDA Road.
Property No. 3 :(belonging to Mr. Lakshman K B)
All that piece and parcel of property Residential site bearing Site No.19, PID 85730, Khata No. 4290, Sadashivnagar, Ring Road, Ward No. 10, Sy No.67/1 of Maralur Village, Tumakuru – 572105 measuring East to West 12.19 +15.24M/2 and North to South 9.6+19.8M/2 and totally measuring 201.7 Square Metres or 2,171-sq feet standing in the name of Shri. K B Lakshman vide Final Decree passed on 28.03.1998 in O S NO.108/94 by Hon, Munsif Court, Tumakuru and bounded on: East by : 30 ft Road,West by : Site No. 21, North by: Site No. 20, South by : Site No.18
(4) Property No.4 :(belonging to Mrs. K L Ramya)
All that piece and parcel of property Residential site bearing Site No.02, PID 79322, Khata No.3789 (old), Sadashivnagar, Ring Road, Ward No. 10, Sy No. 67/1 of Maralur Village, Tumakuru – 572105 measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet totally 1200 Sq. feet standing in the name of Smt. Ramya K L, W/o Shri Abhiram B N, vide Sale Deed Dated 22.09.2014 and Registered as Document No.TMK-1-10751/2014-15 and CD No.TMKD574 dated 22.09.2014 at SRO, Tumakuru and bounded on: East by : Park, West by: 30 ft Road, North by: Site No.1,South by: Site No.3
(5) Property No.5 :(belonging to Mrs. K L Ramya)
All that piece and parcel of property Residential site bearing Site No.01, PID 85729, Khata No. 4292, Sadashivnagar, Ring Road, Ward No.10, Sy No.67/1 of Maralur Village, Tumakuru – 572105 measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 40 feet totally 1600 Sq. feet standing in the name of Smt. Ramya K L, W/o Shri N Abhiram, Vide Gift Deed dated 11.07.2014 and Registered as Document No.TMK-1-06931/2014-15 and CD No.TMKD565 dated 22.07.2014 at SRO, Tumakuru and read with Rectification Deed dated 01.08.2014 and Registered as Document No.TMK-1-07589/2014-15 and CD No.TMKD566 dated 02.08.2014 at SRO, Tumakuru and bounded on: East by : Park, West by: 30 feet Road, North by : 40 feet Road, South by : Site No.2 belonging to Shri B Rangaswamy.
(6) Property No.6 :(belonging to Mrs. K L Rashmi)
All that piece and parcel of property of Residential property bearing Site No. 16, Ward No. 10, Khata No. 4298, PID No.87073, Sadashivnagar, Maralur Village, Tumkur, Sy No. 67/1 of Maralur Village, Tumkur-572105, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet standing in the name of Smt. K L Rashmi, W/o Shri H M Suresh, Vide Sale Deed dated 11.02.2016 and Registered as Document No.TMK-1-20298/2015-16 and CD No.TMKD657 dated 11.02.2016 at SRO, Tumakuru and bounded on: East by : 30 Ft Road, West by: Site No. 21, North by : Site No. 17, South by : Land in Sy No.68

Authorised Officer
State Bank of India, SARB,
J C Road, Bengaluru.

Place: Bengaluru/ Camp : Tumakuru
Date : 07.06.2023

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

INBRIEF

Time to stretch out

JUNE 11, 12 NOON TO 2PM AT ATTA GALATTA, INDIRANAGAR
Attend a nada yoga workshop which will focus on "Yoga and Sound Healing" by Vishal Nagranee and Madhuri Vasisht.
Tickets are priced at ₹1,499 and are available on BookMyShow.

All on canvas

JUNE 9 TO JULY 2
Sublime Galleria, UB City, is organising an art exhibition titled Creative Interventions A Fusion and Alchemy of Colours, by Ria Aboobakar. Ria is a self taught artist, poet and writer.
Entry fee is ₹150 per person.

A book and a talk

JUNE 10, 2PM
Join Sahana Sundar for a talk on her book *Anand* – which follows Anand, a young man who battles societal expectations and struggles to find his purpose in life, ultimately finding solace in the brewing of coffee and his passion for it.
The talk will be moderated by Tejaswini and will be held at Atta Galatta.

Dramatic reading

JUNE 10, 6.30PM
Max Mueller Bhavan presents its second dramatised reading of *A Silence for Frau Schirakesch* by Theresia Walser, which is directed by Ujwala Rao. Curated by Sandbox Collective, it is a part of the German Spotlight, which was conceived to popularise contemporary German drama in translation.
The venue will be Max Mueller Bhavan, Indiranagar.
Entry is free.

The Gipsy Kings come to town

At ZLB 23, the Leela Palace's recently-opened speakeasy, the Gitano-French band regaled their audience with music and memories

Preeti Zachariah

The notes of 'Bamboléo', one of the most iconic songs of the Gitano-French band Gipsy Kings have barely faded. The audience gathered at ZLB 23, the Leela Palace's recently-opened speakeasy, seems to want more. "Again. Play it again," they call, over the applause.

It has been exactly 35 years since The Gipsy Kings came out with 'Bamboléo', but the allure of the song does not die, despite the passing years. "The music industry has changed over 35 years, but one thing does not change for us; we sing with our hearts, our passion," believes band member Juanito Motos, adding that he firmly believes that this is the secret of the band's longevity.

"The audience and public know this," he says, when we meet in Bengaluru, the last city of their week-long India tour. The Gipsy Kings by Diego Baliardo India Tour kicked off on May 31 in Pune and ended with a concert in Bengaluru on June 4, with a pit-stop in Kurla, Mumbai on June 2.

As part of this tour, they also made a surprise stop at the ZLB 23, adding a special twist to its hushed Gatsby-esque atmosphere filled with people in smoking jackets, tuxedos and cocktail dresses, who seemed thrilled to hum along to 'Baila Me' and 'Hotel California'.

"We are really happy to be here in India," says Motos at the meet-and-greet event at ZLB 23, adding that India is the Gitano people's ancestral home. "We are very proud to be singing in India because we cannot forget that the first gipsy came from India," he says. "It is fantastic how so many Indian people know our songs, despite us singing in Spanish. Even those who weren't born in the 1980s know our songs here."

Over the years, The Gipsy Kings became intensely popular for the pop-derived rumba flamenco they offered

According to The Gipsy Kings by Diego Baliardo website, the band began their journey back in 1978 in Southern France, when members of two related families, Baliardo and Reyes, decided to come together to create music. The original band, back then was made up of Nicolas Reyes, Canut Reyes, Patchai Reyes, Andre Reyes, Diego Baliardo, Tonino Baliardo and Paco Baliardo, who sought to preserve their gipsy culture and language, through music. Over the next 40-odd years, the band became intensely popular for the pop-derived rumba flamenco they offered, collaborating with a number of other popular artistes, including Joan Baez, Ruben Blades, Olivia Newton-John and Francis Cabrel.

Today, many of the original members have moved on and started their own Gipsy King bands, incorporating second and third-generation members of the family into these new bands. The source of their rich musical tradition remains the same: family, which is what gipsy music has always been about, as Motos points out. "Our main source of inspiration is our family," he says. "When we go on stage before a concert, even if they are far away, we always think of them. That is our motivation."

Proving age is just a number

Ruth Dhanaraj

A little bit of melodious history graces the city this week; Cuban singer and dancer Omara Portuondo is stopping in Bengaluru and in India, for the first time ever, before heading out on her world tour.

"It has always been my dream to visit India and it is finally coming true," says Omara Portuondo, via her interpreter Carolina Vallejo, who is also her manager and label.

While it is not unusual for a singer to go on a world tour to promote her latest album, it is remarkable when one is 92 years old. *Vida* (meaning Life) is Omara's 31st solo album; it comprises 11 songs and features collaborations with famous Latin American artistes such as Gaby Moreno and Reuben Blades.

Over the decades, Omara has seen shifting political and social landscapes. When Cuba went into lockdown, she decided to use the time to record an album and the killing of George Floyd around that time led her to introspect. "This was a pandemic too, a pandemic of racism and violence. I re-recorded *Now* in support of Black Lives Matter. "

Now, was originally sung by Lena Horne in 1963 as a protest against racism and Omara made it famous in Cuba during the 70s. "Everything has changed, music is in constant movement, new cycles, new genres, it changes with every generation," says Omara, about the world of music.

Ask her what keeps her going and she says, "Everything in life, the people I meet and the countries I visit, my beloved Cuba with all its wonderful music." Carolina adds, "Omara believes in staying up-to-date which reflects in her contemporary approach to her music."

Song for all time: Omara Portuondo SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Hailing from humble beginnings, Omara never thought she would be on the world stage. "My family was poor, but we were always positive, always smiling and singing. I enjoyed singing, but as a hobby; I wanted to get into sports or become a diplomat, but music conquered me."

Omara was around 20 when she and her sister Haydee joined a band called Cuarteto d'Aida, after being part of the local music scene in their teens. The band saw considerable success and began to tour, but their big ticket to fame came when Nat King Cole heard them and made them his backing vocalists.

Even before she embarked on a solo career, Omara was constantly recording and made a name for herself with her rendition of boleros (romantic folk songs), jazz and son cubanos (a genre of music and dance native to eastern Cuba). "She has over 175 recordings to her credit – singles, albums, collaborations," says Carolina.

From India, Omara travels to Bulgaria, Romania, USA, Portugal, Italy, Spain, and Mexico, on to Colombia, Argentina, Ecuador and Sweden, before touring the United States again. "As this is my first time in India, I am not going to be performing with Indian artistes. However, I hope to collaborate with musicians Raghu Dixit and Debashish Bhattacharya at some point."

Vida has a vinyl release in July and the tracks are available on all streaming platforms. Brought to Bengaluru by the Total Environment Music Foundation, Omara Portuondo will perform at Windmills on June 8 and 9.

For tickets log on to: https://www.total-environment.com/music-and-events/omara-portuondo-live-in-concert

Amaan: 'I have been a new comer for two decades"

Shilpa Anandraj

V Md Amanulla, popular with his screen name as Amaan, is a recognised face in film, television and theatre circles in Karnataka. Even today people identify him as Nakul from Prakash Belawadi's series, *Garva*. He played pivotal roles in noted serials of the time, including *Hombala* for Zee Kannada, *Bidagi Chandramma* and *Mouna Raga* for ETV, *Chitrasmarane* and *Tholeda Muthu* for DD 9, directed by stalwarts of the small screen of the era such as P Sheshadri and Sihi Kahi Chandru. In fact, Amaan got so busy with his acting career that he had to quit his day job as cabin crew with an airline. "Those were my golden days," says Amaan. "I was young, a household name and thought that there would be no looking back, but that did not happen." Post Amaan's National Award for Prakash Belawadi's *Stumble*, there was a four-year lull as the television industry went through a organisational shift. "They were looking for new faces and suddenly I felt my presence was wiped out from the world of small screen."

Amaan took to theatre as a child and returned to it during the long waiting periods for roles in films. "That is what sustained my creative passion, but keeping the kitchen fires burning through stage is a challenge." During the lull, Amaan, returned to working for the airline as well. "This time I was in the sales department as I had started losing hair and was not considered fit for cabin crew," Amaan says with a laugh.

The drive to succeed
Amaan in his varied screen avataars SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Calling his father the "culprit" for instilling the passion for acting in him, Amaan says, "I am an only son and my father is a religious man, who knew nothing besides work, family, reading the Quran and praying five times a day. He was aware that I would playact imaginary characters on our terrace."

As his father could not afford to take Amaan to watch films, he would take him to Ravindra Kalakshetra by bus every weekend. "He would either sit in a corner or doze off, while I explored the place. I was a child of six or seven and would watch theatre legends such as BV Karanth and MS Sathyu in action as they rehearsed plays." When Amaan's father learnt that Shankar Nag was auditioning children for *Malgudi Days*, he went all over the city and finally found the place and took Amaan for them. "I spent three full days and was chosen to play Swami's friend, which required me to be away from school for 32 days. My father was not happy about it so I lost that chance." Amaan treasures every moment he interacted with Shankar Nag. "Trying on costumes, acting in front of the camera... everything struck a chord in me and I knew this is what I wanted to do." Amaan started off with English theatre with Mahesh Dattani, Prakash, Poile Sengupta and Chippy Ganjee, then "progressed to television and finally the silver screen." Amaan has worked with directors including KM Chaitanya (*Aa Dinagalu*, *Aadya*), K Suchendra Prasad (*Sangdhigdha*), R Madhavan (*Rocketry - The Nambi Effect*) and Manu Anand (*FIR*). "I feel blessed to have worked across the five Indian languages, and with some of the best actors, directors and technicians from the world of cinema." Amaan awaits the release of two Kannada films – *Basrikatte* and *3Devi*. "No offers have come my way, for a while now making me feel like a struggling actor all over again. I wonder if one has to always knock on doors for a role, despite having the credentials and being known to deliver? You cannot command work in the industry. That is when I tell myself I am still a struggling actor."

> I wonder if one has to always knock on doors for a role, despite having the credentials and being known to deliver
> AMAAN

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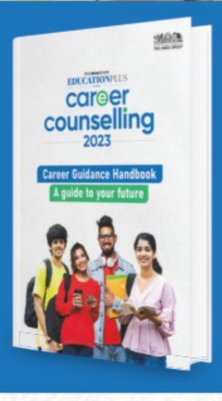

FREE CAREER HANDBOOK

ENTRY FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS

To pre-register for the event and take the STEP test, scan the QR code or visit **bit.ly/THCC2023**

Bengaluru

June 10, 2023 | 10 AM onwards
Sri Jagadguru Renukacharya College (SJR College)
No. 9, Race course Road, Ananda Rao Circle.

Tumakuru

June 11, 2023 | 10 AM onwards
Birla Auditorium
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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Cabinet approves hike in the minimum support price of paddy

143 in ₹. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs hiked the minimum support price of paddy to ₹2,183 per quintal for the 2023-24 crop year from ₹2,040 in the previous year. PTI

Indians issued the highest number of U.S. student visas

17.5 In percentage. One out of every five F1 student visas was issued in India in 2022. Indians were also issued the highest number of H&L employment visas, as per U.S. Ambassador Eric Garcetti. PTI

The approved outlay for 4G, 5G spectrum allocation to BSNL

89,047 In ₹ crore. This was approved by the Cabinet. The authorised capital of BSNL will be increased from ₹1.5 lakh crore to ₹2.1 lakh crore. PTI

China's exports tumble in May as global demand falters

7.5 In percentage. Exports shrank much faster than expected while imports extended declined with a grim outlook for global demand, especially from developed markets. REUTERS

The people evacuated from Kakhovka dam flooding in Ukraine

2,700 people.The figure includes 38 people who had been rescued from the roofs of houses. Some residents are still stranded. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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How can we transition to a low-carbon city?

What is the sector-coupling approach? How do strategies to mitigate excessive energy use change with different kinds of cities? Will a one-size-fits-all approach work with respect to transitioning to a low-carbon city? How do we make energy governance equitable?

EXPLAINER

Stuti Haldar

In 2020, cities dumped a whopping 29 trillion tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Therefore, given the significant impact that cities have on the environment, low-carbon cities are crucial to mitigate the effects of climate change. Transitioning to low-carbon or even net-zero cities requires us to integrate mitigation and adaptation options in multiple sectors. This is called the 'sector-coupling approach', and it is necessary to decarbonise urban systems.

Why are energy-system transitions important?

An energy-system transition could reduce urban carbon dioxide emissions by around 74%. With rapid advancements in clean energy and related technologies and nosediving prices, we have crossed the economic and technological barriers to implementing low-carbon solutions. The transition must be implemented both on the demand and the supply side. Mitigation options on the supply side include phasing out fossil fuels and increasing the share of renewables in the energy mix, and using carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies. On the demand side, using the 'avoid, shift, improve' framework would entail reducing the demand for materials and energy, and substituting the demand for fossil fuels with renewables. Secondly, in order to address residual emissions in the energy sector, we must implement carbon-dioxide removal (CDR) technologies.

As we now have the appropriate technologies and knowledge base to build net-zero urban systems through energy transitions, the only impediments are social and political in nature.

What are the different strategies?

The strategies to mitigate and adapt to low-carbon varies based on a city's characteristics. Transitioning to renewable energy sources is not as simple as replacing fossil fuels with clean energy.

GETTY IMAGES

There are multifarious issues of energy justice and social equity to be dealt with. This is a key consideration when we frame energy-transition policies that are socially and environmentally fair. These considerations are a city's spatial form, land-use pattern, level of development, and the state of urbanisation.

An established city can retrofit and repurpose its infrastructure to increase energy efficiency, and promote public as well as active transport like bicycling and walking. In fact, walkable cities designed around people can significantly reduce energy demand, as can electrifying public transport and setting up renewable-based district cooling and heating networks. A rapidly growing city can try to colocate housing and jobs – by planning the city in a way that brings places of work closer to residential complexes, thus reducing transport energy demand. Such cities can also leapfrog to low-carbon technologies, including renewables and CCS.

New and emerging cities have the most potential to reduce emissions – using energy-efficient services and infrastructure, and a people-centric urban design. They can also implement building codes that mandate net-zero energy use and retrofit existing buildings, all while gradually shifting to low-emission construction material.

How can an energy transition be just?

Energy systems are directly and indirectly linked to livelihoods, local economic development, and the socio-economic well-being of people engaged in diverse sectors. So a one-size-fits-all approach is unlikely to ensure a socially and environmentally just transition. For example, transitioning to renewable-energy sources could disproportionately affect groups of people or communities in developing economies and sectors that depend on fossil fuels.

Broadly, the energy supply needs to be balanced against fast-growing energy demand (due to urbanisation), the needs of energy security, and exports. Additional justice concerns include land dispossession related to large-scale renewable energy projects, spatial concentration of poverty, the marginalisation of certain communities, gendered impacts, and the reliance on coal for livelihoods. For instance, developing economies, including Nigeria, Angola, and Venezuela, owe a significant fraction of their gross domestic products (GDPs) to fossil-fuel exports. Transitioning away from these industries could devastate their economies, with the consequences landing particularly heavily on the workers employed in the fossil-fuel sector. Similarly, in developed countries, many communities suffer energy poverty and inequity due to high energy costs, low incomes, and inadequate infrastructure. In the U.S., expenditure on energy bills is a significant chunk of the total income of low-income households. This can crowd out expenses for other amenities like healthcare and nutrition.

Are there any solutions that foreground justice?

Ensuring a transition to low-carbon energy systems in cities at different stages of urbanisation, national contexts, and institutional capacities requires strategic and bespoke efforts. They must be directed at governance and planning, achieving behavioural shifts, promoting technology and innovation, and building institutional capacity. We must also adopt a comprehensive approach to address the root causes of energy and environmental injustices. This includes mitigation and adaptation responses that engage multiple stakeholders in energy governance and decision-making, promoting energy-efficiency, scaling up climate investments, and capturing alternate knowledge streams (including indigenous and local lived experiences).

Stuti Haldar is a postdoctoral researcher at the Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bengaluru.

THE GIST

- Transitioning to low-carbon or even net-zero cities requires us to integrate mitigation and adaptation options in multiple sectors. This is called the 'sector-coupling approach'.
- The strategies to mitigate and adapt to low-carbon varies based on a city's characteristics. Transitioning to renewable energy sources is not as simple as replacing fossil fuels with clean energy. There are multifarious issues of energy justice and social equity to be dealt with.
- Energy systems are directly and indirectly linked to livelihoods, local economic development, and the socio-economic well-being of people engaged in diverse sectors. So a one-size-fits-all approach is unlikely to ensure a socially and environmentally just transition.

How KFON aims to bridge the digital divide in Kerala

How is the Kerala Fibre Optic Network project going to be rolled out? Has any other State declared access to Internet as a basic right? Who are the beneficiaries of the project?

S.R. Praveen

The story so far:

On November 7, 2019, the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government in Kerala announced that access to the Internet would be a basic right in the State, becoming the first State in the country to do so. The declaration came three years after the UN had passed a resolution recognising Internet access as a basic human right. The announcement was accompanied by a detailed plan to ensure that it would become a ground reality, with the setting up of the Kerala Fibre Optic Network (KFON), through which Internet connections would be provided free of cost to 20 lakh below-poverty-line (BPL) families. The project is aimed at ensuring universal Internet access and narrowing the digital divide, which has become especially acute after the COVID-19 outbreak.

How is the government running the network and providing services?

The Kerala government's role involves setting up the vast infrastructure required for providing Internet, especially to remote corners of the State. The network has reached remote locations, including tribal hamlets in Wayanad and elsewhere, which had remained out of the information superhighway until now. The cabling works, stretching to 34,961 km, piggybacks on the Kerala State Electricity Board's (KSEB) existing infrastructure. KFON Limited is, in fact, a joint venture of the KSEB and the Kerala State Information Technology Infrastructure Ltd (KSITIL).

In July 2022, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) granted KFON an infrastructure provider (IP) licence and also approved it as an internet service provider (ISP).

How will the plan be rolled out?

The aim was to provide Internet connections to 14,000 BPL families, with 100 each from the State's 140 assembly constituencies in the first phase. The panchayats and the urban local bodies were given the responsibility of choosing the beneficiaries. However, the process of selection has been slow, with many local bodies delaying the submission of a list of beneficiaries from their area. As of now, Internet connection has been provided to 7,000 BPL families across the State. Each household will get 1.5 GB of data per day at 15 Mbps speed. In the second phase, Internet services will be made available to the public at affordable rates.

Free Internet connections for BPL families and government institutions is just one part of the ₹1,548 crore KFON project. The rest of the network will be monetised. The State government in 2022 had constituted a committee headed by the Chief Secretary to study the possibilities of monetising the network. About 22 of a total of 48 fibres will be used for the network's own operations, with the KSEB also using some. The rest can be leased out, Santhosh Babu, Managing Director, KFON, had earlier told *The Hindu*.

What is the road ahead?

The commissioning of the first phase of KFON comes a week after the Chief Minister declared Kerala as India's first fully e-governed State. The e-office system has already been implemented in the Secretariat, district collectorates, commissionerates and directorates. As many as 900 government services, comprising all the services usually required by the public, are now available through a single-window portal.

The government has also begun a digital literacy campaign at the grassroot level through various local bodies to ensure that everyone is equipped to access basic services through the Internet. If the KFON project achieves what it has envisaged, it can bring about a change at the ground level as far as access and opportunities are concerned.

THE GIST

- On November 7, 2019, the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government in Kerala announced that access to the Internet would be a basic right in the State, becoming the first State in the country to do so.
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- The government has also begun a digital literacy campaign at the grassroot level through various local bodies to ensure that everyone is equipped to access basic services through the Internet.

Delayed monsoon leaves people in Linganamakki backwater villages stranded

Sathish G.T.
SHIVAMOGGA

As the water level in Linganamakki reservoir, across the Sharavati river, has decreased, ferries cannot come close to the ramp, making it difficult for vehicles to board. SATHISH G.T.

Usually, we hear of people being stranded during heavy rain and flooding. But residents of Karuru and Barangi hoblis in Sagar taluk of Karnataka are stranded because of the delay in the onset of the southwest monsoon. They are dependent on ferries operated by the Department of Ports and Inland Water Transport to access places in the rest of Sagar taluk.

But, operating barges is getting difficult, as the water level in the Linganamakki reservoir, across the Sharavati, has been decreasing. The ferries that operate at Hasirumakki and Muppane have been stopped. And the one at Holebagilu, which helps people coming from Sagar reach Sigandur, is expected to be stopped soon.

Dhanendra Kumar, Ferry Inspector of the Department of Inland Water Transport, told *The Hindu* that ferry operations had been stopped at Muppane and Hasirumakki. With the water level decreasing gradually, it is not possible to operate the ferries. "Ferries at Holebagilu are operating as of now. We can continue to offer the services for one week. If there is no rain and the water level does not increase, we have to restrict the service only to people, not vehicles," he said.

The ferries carry buses, four-wheelers, and two-wheelers along with passengers. The department has constructed ramps at the entry points so that vehicles can enter the ferry. As the water level has decreased, the ferries cannot come close to the ramp, making it difficult for vehicles to enter.

As of Monday, the water level in the Linganamakki reservoir stood at 532.43 metre as against the full-reservoir level of 554.44 metre. "We are all hoping for arrival of the monsoon. With the rains, flow into the dam increases, raising the water level," the officer said.

Impact on people

More than 15,000 people residing in over six gram panchayats of Karuru and Barangi hoblis depend on the ferries to commute to Sagar, the taluk headquarters, and other places.

There are two alternative routes via Hosanagar-Nittur and Jog-Kargal to reach the island villages. If the ferries are stopped, people have to take a longer route of 90 to 120 km, depending on their destination. "We are worried about reaching hospitals if someone falls sick, or meets with an accident," said G.T. Satyanarayana, former president of Tumari Gram Panchayat.

He was also worried about the supply of essential goods such as vegetables. The villagers would have to pay extra as transportation costs would increase substantially.

Travel by ferries

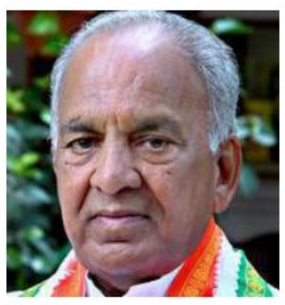
Every day, more than 2,000 people commute by ferry to Hasirumakki and Muppane, and Holebagilu. Besides the locals, many tourists and devotees commute by ferry to the temple at Sigandur.

"We are checking if there is a possibility of constructing an additional ramp so that ferry operations are not disturbed. Following instructions from seniors in the department, we are inspecting what can be done for the benefit of people," said Mr. Dhanendra Kumar.

Lobbying in Cong. for Council seats

Out of eight vacancies in the Upper House of the Karnataka legislature, the ruling party is all set to bag six seats

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU



Likely candidates: Baburao Chinchansur, Jagadish Shettar, and N.S. Boseraju

Intense lobbying has begun in the ruling Congress in Karnataka as eight seats have fallen vacant in the Legislative Council. The Congress is all set to secure six of the eight seats.

Out of the vacant seats, elections to three will be held on June 30.

In the nomination category, three seats are vacant and the government has to recommend names to the Governor to fill the vacancies. One seat each from Graduates' and Teachers' constituencies is lying vacant.

The Congress would get all three seats in the elections from the Assembly constituency scheduled to be held on June 30. Since the term of three seats would end in different years, poll authorities would hold elections separately for three seats, sources in the State Secretariat told *The Hindu*.

Three vacancies were created following the resignation of Baburao Chinchansur, R. Shankar, and Laxman Savadi. All three resigned from the Council and contested the Karnataka Assembly elections held last month.

Puttanna (Teachers' constituency) and Ayanur Manjunath (Graduates' constituency) too quit the BJP and contested elections on Congress and JD (S) ticket, respectively. Both were defeated. The Election Commission has not yet announced date for holding bypolls in these constituencies.

The term of nominated members of Mohan Kumar Kondajji and P.R. Ramesh ended on May 17, while the term of C.M. Lingappa would end on June 8.

Term of office of MLCs who resigned

- Baburao Chinchansur June 17, 2024
- R. Shankar - June 30, 2026
- Laxman Savadi - June 14, 2028

Term of nominated members

- Mohan Kumar Kondajji and P.R. Ramesh - May 17, 2023
- C.M. Lingappa - June 8, 2023

Graduates' constituency

- Ayanur Manjunath - June 21, 2024

Teachers' constituency

Puttanna - November 11, 2026

Minister for Minor Irrigation and Science & Technology N.S. Boseraju, who is not a member of either House of the State legislature, is likely to be the first candidate of the Congress.

Sources in the party indicated that Mr. Chinchansur, who quit the BJP and contested the Assembly elections but lost to Sharan Gowda of the JD(S) in Gurmitkal constituency, is likely to be the second candidate. The five-time MLA, who served as the Minister in the previous Congress governments, hails from Koli community in Kalaburagi. Keeping an eye on next year's Lok Sabha elections, the Congress has planned to field Mr. Chinchansur in the June 30 polls, a party functionary said.

Former Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar, who quit the BJP and contested elections on Congress ticket, will be the third candidate. Sources said Mr. Shettar is apparently lobbying hard through his relative and veteran Congress MLA Shamanur Shivashankarappa.

Several youth and Kisan wing leaders argued that the party has been sidelining the youth and Kisan leaders. Their grievance was that the Congress has been neglecting first generation leaders by giving preference to old leaders who have become legislators and and served as Ministers in different governments.

The youth and Kisan wings leaders alleged that the party has been undermining its own Udaipur declaration by denying ticket to youth leaders.

Nomination category

There are three seats lying vacant in the nomination category. Several seniors have begun lobbying to get membership of the Upper House. Senior leader B.L. Shankar, who has been articulating the Congress views in the media and major functions for many years, is the frontrunner. Other leaders lobbying are former Minister Umashree, and Mansur Ali Khan, son of former Union Minister K. Rahman Khan.

Youth leader Basavaraj A.P., who led a group of 25 seers from leading Lingayat mutts to meet former party president Sonia Gandhi in 2016 seeking adequate representation to the youth in the Council, Karnataka Kisan Congress chief Sachin Meega, former Minister Rani Satish, and actor Sadhu Kokila are also aspiring to become members of the Council in the nomination category.

All in the family

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three political families have members in both Houses of the legislature.

They are former Minister Praksh Hukkeri (MLC) and his son Ganesh Hukkeri (MLA); Minister M.B. Patil (MLA) and his brother Sunilgouda Patil (MLC); Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar and her brother Channaraj Basavaraj Hattiholi (MLC). Chandrashekar B. Patil and Bheemarao Basavaraj Patil (brothers) are members of the Upper House.

Farooq Abdullah stresses need for unity among regional parties ahead of 2024 polls

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah greeting JD(S) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda as former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy looks on, in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah has emphasised the need for regional parties to come together to fight the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, as it is necessary to "save the country from being divided on religious lines."

Speaking in Bengaluru on Wednesday after meeting former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda at his residence, he said that India is a country where there is unity in diversity and this should be protected.

This comes against the backdrop of speculation of JD(S) joining hands with the BJP in the Lok Sabha elections. On Tuesday, in response to a question, Mr. Gowda had said: "Show me one party which has not associated with the BJP, either directly or indirectly." However, Mr. Abdullah said that the meeting was a courtesy call and did not disclose the nature of discussion with Mr. Gowda.

On the meeting of Opposition parties called by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Mr. Abdullah maintained that these meetings are significant in view of the 2024 polls. He denounced films like *Kashmir Files* and *The Kerala Story* saying they were destroying India and its Constitution by dividing people.

Mr. Abdullah later met Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. He also delivered at lecture at St. Joseph's University in Bengaluru.

CM promises review of all 'anti-farmer' amendments to laws

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has promised to review amendments made to the Land Reforms Act, the APMC Act, and the Anti-Cow Slaughter Act by the previous Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) regime, after meeting farmers' leaders.

The Chief Minister said that he would hold separate meeting to discuss the issue in detail.

Farmers' leaders, including Badagalpura Nagendra, Chamarasa Mali Patil, Baiyya Reddy, H.R. Basavarajappa, and others, were present in the delegation.

Earlier in the day, members of various farmers' organisations, writers, intellectuals, and activists held a press conference to demand withdrawal of the anti-cow slaughter legislation immediately.

'Indiscriminately implemented'

Writer and social activist Agni Sridhar, speaking at the press conference, said the anti-cow slaughter legislation was indiscriminately implemented by the previous BJP government without taking into account right to food or its impact on farmers.

Ensure proper quality in public housing schemes, says High Court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has to take care that that proper constructions are made under any scheme which involves public money, so that it is not misused by contractors, and engineers who approve shoddy constructions are brought to book without delay, said the High Court of Karnataka.

The court made these observations while pointing out that the court, in a plethora of cases, had come across contractors undertaking shoddy constructions particularly of low-income group and mid-income group houses, and in certain cases in high-income group houses under public projects.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna made the observation while rejecting a petition filed by Mysuru-based M/s PG Setty Construction Technology Pvt. Ltd. The company had questioned the action of the Karnataka State Police Housing and Infrastructure Development Corporation in encashing bank guarantee of ₹1.15 crore for shoddy work of construction of police residential quarters by the company in Mandya and Chamarajanagar districts.

"The bank guarantee is not furnished for it to be photo-framed and hung on the wall. It has a purpose. The purpose is redeemed by the corporation and cannot be found fault with," the court observed, while pointing out that company did not care to address the shoddy works pointed out by the corporation soon after completion of construction of residential quarters.

The court rejected the company's claim it was liable only for structural defects and not the ones pointed out by the corporation. "It is rather surprising how the engineers of the corporation or the engineers concerned have cleared the bills without inspecting the construction and its quality, as complaints of cracks and leakages have arisen immediately after the completion certificate is issued," the court observed.

CM orders probe into recruitment scam

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah ordered a probe into the alleged irregularities in the test conducted for recruitment of Assistant Public Procedure-cum-Assistant Government Pleader (APP-AGP) held on July 23 and 24, 2022.

The Chief Minister directed the Chief Secretary to conduct the departmental probe and submit a report in 10 days with the details of all those involved in the alleged recruitment scam.

Office of the Electricity Department
Thrissur Corporation, Thrissur
EDI-2025/23 Dated : 05.06.2023
THRISSUR CORPORATION ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
e-Tender Notice
"Supply of 3 Phase AC Static Watt Hour Meter with LCD"
Last Date : 27.06.2023
log on to :
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
(Sd/-) Assistant Secretary

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No.97235420
Senior Divisional Materials Manager (Stores Branch), Southern Railway, Salem Division (for and on behalf of The President of India) invites attention to this office E-Tenders for the following items through IREPS portal.
Tender Closing and Opening Time: 23.06.2023 at 14.30 Hrs.
Description of Stores: Supply and installation of OSOP Kiosks with locking mechanism at various locations as per detailed specification and drawing enclosed in the tender.
Qty.: 7 Nos.
Due Date: 23.06.2023
For further details, please refer to web Portal **www.ireps.gov.in -> E-Tender -> View Tenders.**
Please note that only online quotations submitted through IREPS portal will be accepted and the offers are to be digitally signed.
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OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

OBITUARY

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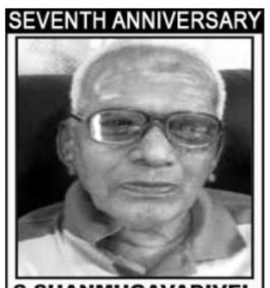
Dhasasthu on 12.06.2023
at Gnanavabhi, T.Nagar, Chennai.
Ph: 9790715910

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY



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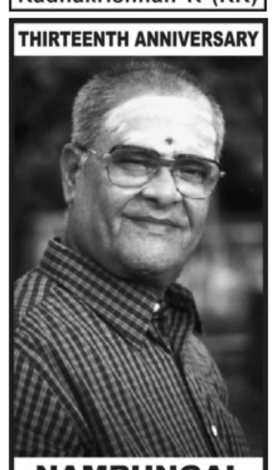
Rtd. Asst. Commissioner of Labour, Chennai.
Fondly remembered by the FAMILY

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

11TH ANNIVERSARY

R.PADMAVATHI
I still remember you with silent tears. Missing you.....
Radhakrishnan R (RK)

THIRTEENTH ANNIVERSARY



NAMBUNGAL R.NARAYANAN
DOD - 08.06.2010
We Miss you..
Family & Friends
Ph: 044-24338787

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5th Floor, Aavin Illam, No.3A, Pasumpon Muthuramalingam Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035
Short e-tender notice
e-Tender Ref.No:31/2023-24, Transportation of Dry Fly Ash through closed trucks from M/s. Tuticorin Thermal Power Station, Tuticorin to Alangulam Cement Works, Virudhunagar District, T.N.
Est. Value : Rs.5.25 crore, EMD: Rs.5,00,000/-
Submission of tender : Up to 3.00 P.M. on 22.06.2023
Important Note:
A Pre-bid Meeting will be held on **15.06.2023** at **3.00 P.M** at Registered Office of TANCEM, Chennai - 35.
The Tender document can be downloaded from **www.tntenders.gov.in** Corrigendum / Addendum to this publication, if any would appear only on the above said website.
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COMPANY SECRETARY

Alok Kumar is new ADGP, Traffic and Road Safety

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

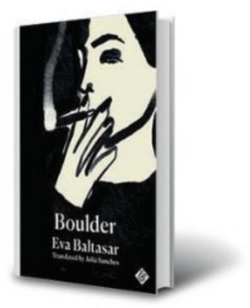
In another round of a major reshuffle, the State government transferred Additional Director General of Police (Law and order) Alok Kumar as Additional Director General of Police, Traffic and Road Safety, Bengaluru, in the upgraded vacant post.

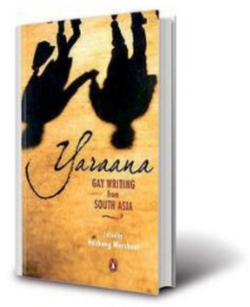
Other transfers

Mr. Alok Kumar was replaced by R. Hithendra, Additional Director General of Police, Crimes and Technical Services, Bengaluru.

The other senior officers transferred include Umesh Kumar, Additional Director General of Police, Administration, who has replaced Mr. Hitrendra and Soumendu Mukherjee, Additional Director General of Police, Police, Computer Wing, who has been transferred and posted until further orders as Additional Director General of Police, Administration, replacing Mr. Umesh Kumar.

BIBLIOGRAPHY





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Giving voice to the LGBTQIA+ community, and others who need visibility

Pride Month is observed in June to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall riots in the U.S. As the month begins, this article explores literature that talks about various facets of the queer experience, unencumbered by cliches or the need to pander to heteronormativity

Preeti Zachariah

In an interview with *The Village Voice*, published in 1984 titled 'James Baldwin on Being Gay in America', the novelist and essayist made a remark that really struck a chord with me, something that I am always cognizant of when I read something that, more often than not, is too-simplistically classified as 'queer literature'. "*Giovanni's Room* is not really about homosexuality. It's the vehicle through which the book moves," he said in the interview, referring to his 1956 novel about an American man living in Paris who struggles to come to terms with his sexuality. "It's about what happens to you if you're afraid to love anybody, which is more interesting than the question of homosexuality," said Baldwin.

This need to break away from the pigeonholing of books with queer characters into a single, reductive category such as 'queer literature' hit me anew when I read, *Boulder*, Spanish poet and writer Eva Baltasar's slim, powerful novella that was recently shortlisted for the International Booker Prize. While the complexities of queer parenthood are a vital aspect of the book, an intense, incredibly sensual story of the relationship between a cook on a merchant ship and Samsa, her Scandinavian lover, the overarching theme is universal: a meditation on the never-ending tussle between intimacy and independence. In an interview with the UK-based *Pink News*, an online newspaper for the queer community, Baltasar talks about why telling queer stories with nuance helps normalise them, she says, adding in that same interview that she is thrilled "not only to be giving voice and visibility to [the LGBTQ+] community but also to all the people and communities who, for whatever reason, feel uncomfortable living in our society or have no choice but to struggle through every day just to be true to who they feel they are."

Social rejection

Boulder is the latest addition to some brilliant pieces of literature that explore various facets of the queer experience, unencumbered by tired cliches or the need to pander to heteronormativity. One of the best-known, of course, is Alan Hollinghurst's 2004 *The Line of Beauty*, which won the Man Booker Prize, that tells the story of Nick, a gay, young man, negotiating politics, class, drugs and desire, in Britain in the 1980s, as the shadow of HIV/AIDS draws closer. And yes, not a novel but one of the finest pieces of journalism I've ever read about politics, sexuality and the AIDS crisis is Randy Shilts' *And the Band Played On: Politics, People, and the AIDS Epidemic*. In the book, published in 1987, Shilts blames the apathy of institutions towards disease, claiming that because the initial victims were gay men, America reacted too slowly to the AIDS crisis. "AIDS remained a fundamentally gay disease, newsworthy only by the virtue of the fact that it sometimes hit people who weren't gay," wrote Shilts, who sadly succumbed to the disease in 1994, aged 42. "What society judged was not the severity of the disease but the social acceptability of the individuals affected with it."

Social acceptance, or rather the absolute lack of it, comes up in Vietnamese-American poet Ocean Vuong's *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*, a book with lines of raw beauty and tenderness. "He was a boy breaking out and into himself at one. That's what I wanted—not merely the body, desirable as it was, but its will to grow into the very world that rejects its hunger," writes the protagonist, nicknamed Little Dog in this epistolary, coming-of-age novel that touches on so many things. Burgeoning sexuality, of course, but also the long shadow cast by the Vietnam War, the immigrant experience, America's opioid crisis, toxic masculinity, trauma and so much more in haunting prose.

Another book with equally unique prose is *Girl, Woman, Other*, that rambunctious, clever, polyphonic ode to the (mostly) queer, black, female experience in Britain that won the Man Booker in 2019. The next year's Man Booker winner, Douglas Stuart's semi-autobiographical *Shuggie Bain*, a bleak and sordid story written in absolutely sublime prose, also had at its centre, a queer character: Hugh "Shuggie" Bain, who is grappling with his own sexuality and his mother's alcoholism, desperately trying to escape the squalidness of his life in working-class Glasgow.

Love letters

As someone whose writing journey began with the letters that I wrote my grandfather as a child, letters, especially those centred around love and longing, hold a special place. Some of the most exquisite love letters are those written by Virginia Woolf to her lover, the English poet Vita Sackville-West, and the passionate missives that Oscar Wilde writes to his muse and lover, Lord Alfred "Bosie" Douglas. "It is a marvel that those red rose-leaf lips of yours should be made no less for the madness of music and song than for the madness of kissing," writes Wilde in one letter, adding. "Your slim gilt soul walks between passion and poetry."

Talking about poetry, I'd also recommend the work of Hoshang Merchant and Akhil Katyal, both of whom are part of *The Penguin Book of Indian Poets* edited by Jeet Thayil. The former, a pioneer of gay liberation, and one of the first openly gay poets in India who often credits Anais Nin with being a powerful influence, was the editor of *Yaarana: Gay Writing from India*, published in 1999 at a time when talking about gay sexuality was still taboo. And, yes, Sappho, always Sappho, that ancient poet from the island of Lesbos, whose lyrical love poetry, perhaps the oldest in the Western tradition, still endures. "This is my fair girl-garden: sweet they grow...Rose, violet, asphodel and lily's snow," she writes in a poem dedicated to her girlfriends. "And which the sweetest is, I do not know."

Pride Month is observed in June to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall riots in the U.S., but these books - and letters - tell universal stories of love, loss, identity and so much more. I end, where I begin with Baldwin, who in a 1963 interview with *Life Magazine*, spoke about literature being an archive of the human experience. "You think your pain and your heartbreak are unprecedented in the history of the world, but then you read," he said, adding, "It was books that taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, or who had ever been alive."

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

World Ocean Day is observed every year on June 8. A quiz on the oceans and seas that make up the majority of our planet

V. V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1
Name the ocean current which flows southward along the southeast coast of Mozambique and the coast of South Africa before turning east to join the flow from Africa to Australia.

QUESTION 2
What colourful name is given to the marginal sea in the Western Pacific Ocean that is located between mainland China and the Korean Peninsula?

QUESTION 3
What is special about the Sargasso Sea that lies in Northern Atlantic Subtropical Gyre?

QUESTION 4
Oceans are said to produce 70% percent of the oxygen supply in the atmosphere. Which phytoplankton is reckoned to be solely responsible for one in every five breaths a human will take?

QUESTION 5
Under which ocean is the biggest waterfall in the world, with a water drop of almost 11,500 feet (more than three times the height of Angel Falls) located?

QUESTION 6
Which country has the longest coastline in the world, more than double that of the second-placed country Norway?

QUESTION 7
Under which ocean is the 'Ring of Fire', made up of underwater volcanoes and earthquake zones?

Visual question:
This is Victor Vescovo, an American undersea explorer. What first did he achieve in August 2019? AP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. In 1981, a passenger train carrying more than 800 passengers derailed and plunged into the river Bagmati in this State. **Ans: Bihar**
2. The Firozabad rail disaster occurred in 1995, when this passenger train collided with this train which had stopped after hitting this animal. **Ans: Kalindi Express, Purushottam Express; Nilgai**
3. The largest single rail disaster in world history by death toll, with 1,700 fatalities or more, occurred in Sri Lanka due to this. **Ans: The train was hit by a tsunami that followed the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake**
4. This 1980 Hindi film tells the story of a train that catches fire on its inaugural run from New Delhi to Mumbai. **Ans: The Burning Train**
5. The Ciurea rail disaster took place in this country. **Ans: Romania**
6. Identify this image. **Ans: This is in Dhanushkodi, after the cyclone that struck in 1964**
Early Birds: C. Saravanan| K. N. Viswanathan| Ojasvi Taak| Annusitara

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir, Mr. N. Laxmanan wants to know whether 'simpleton' means 'a simple person'."

"It doesn't mean that. A simpleton is a foolish person. He is a person who can be easily deceived. A simple person is a 'straightforward' or 'innocent' or 'unassuming person'.

It is pointless to seek his advice. He is a simpleton."

"Sir, Miss Pratibha Patii, Saroda, wants to know whether the word 'upgradation' exists in English."

"Upgradation doesn't exist either in British or in American English. 'Upgrading' is used. 'Upgradation' is widely used in India.

Upgradation of the post is not feasible.

In British English, 'upgrading' is likely to be used instead of 'upgradation' in this sentence."

"Sir, Mr. P. Syamsundara Sastri, Guntur, wants to know the meaning of 'hope against hope'."

"To hope against hope means 'to continue to hope when there is little chance of success'.

He is hoping against hope that he will pass the examination.

I am hoping against hope that I will be promoted next month."

"Sir, Ms. G. Uma wants to know how to use the word 'modicum'."

'Modicum' means 'a small amount of anything'.

If he has a modicum of sense, he won't contest the elections.

There isn't a modicum of truth in what he says."

'Sir, Mrs. Jyoti Govindarajulu, 60/52, Haripada Dutta Lane, Calcutta, wants to know the meaning of the idiom 'Give the devil his due'."

" 'It means to give credit to an opponent or an unpleasant person'.

To give the devil his due, I must admit he is very clever."

"Sir, Mr. M. Satyanarayana, IBL, Sir CRR Law College, Eluru, wants to know the origin of the word 'bandicoot'."

"Bandicoot is from Telugu *pandikokku*, pig rat. It was used in English as early as 1789. Though it is recorded in dictionaries, it is largely unknown to British and American speakers. In Australian English, 'bandicoot' is used in expressions like 'bald as a bandicoot', 'busy as a bandicoot', 'poor as a bandicoot', 'miserable as a bandicoot'. In Australian English, it is also used as a verb. 'To bandicoot' is 'to steal vegetables by removing the roots and leaving the tops standing so that the theft is not noticed'. In India, 'bandicoot' is used figuratively to mean 'a corrupt person'."

"Sir, Mr. K. S. Mani, 1/4, ESI Quarters, K.K. Nagar, Madras, wants to know whether the sentence 'The Speaker played ducks and drakes with the proceedings' is correct."

"It is not correct. 'To play ducks and drakes' is to squander or waste, to spend recklessly. It is used generally with money.

He is playing ducks and drakes with his money.

This idiom has been used since the 17th century."

Published in The Hindu on April 5, 1988

Word of the day

Anachronism:
something located at a time when it could not have existed or occurred; an artifact that belongs to another time; a person who seems to be displaced in time; who belongs to another age

Synonyms: misdating, mistiming

Usage: *The use of 'my lord' in the court is clearly an anachronism.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/anachronismpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /əˈnæ.kɹə.nɪ.z(ə)m/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Cyclone may affect the course of monsoon

The intensity and diversion of the cyclone Biparjoy will help monsoon onset in Kerala; some scientists feel the cyclone may steal considerable moisture away; India Meteorological Department says Kerala is likely to receive widespread rain across the State for the next five days

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

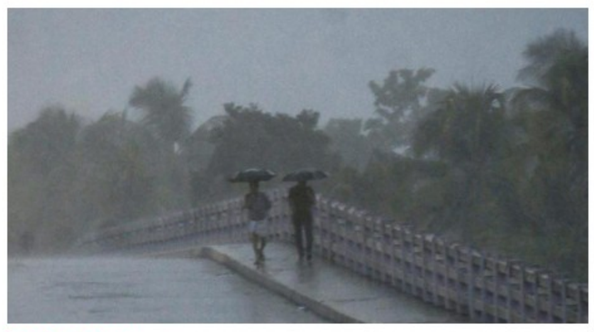
Cyclone Biparjoy in the Arabian Sea intensified into a 'very severe cyclone' on Wednesday. Currently located about 850 km west of Goa, it is expected to move northwards and turn towards Oman in the coming days. While this will help the monsoon onset in Kerala within the next 48 hours, several experts say this will mean a sluggish ascent up the Western coast.

"As of today, the cyclone system has detached from the monsoon system and there have been good rains over Kerala and the winds are favourable too," said D. Sivananda Pai, of the India Meteorological Department,

"However we have to wait a few days to see whether it will impact the monsoon's subsequent movement," he said.

Other scientists say that a slew of factors have combined that will likely see the Biparjoy steal considerable moisture away from the monsoon.

"An exceptionally warm Arabian Sea, a weak monsoon onset, and favourable Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) conditions in the Indian Ocean are favouring this cyclone.



Time to pour: People venture out amid heavy rain in Kochi on Wednesday. THULASI KAKKAT

With this, it would not be the case of classic monsoon onset, satisfying all the given criteria," Roxy Mathew Koll, Climate Scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, said in a statement.

Meanwhile, a bulletin issued by the India Meteorological Department in Thiruvananthapuram on Wednesday said that Kerala is likely to receive widespread rain across the State for the next five days.

There is a persistence of westerly winds over the south Arabian Sea and an increase in the depth of westerly winds and cloudiness over areas covering the southeast Arabian Sea, Lakshadweep, and the Kerala coast. Under the influence of this system, rain or thundershowers are likely to occur in most places in Kerala till June 11.

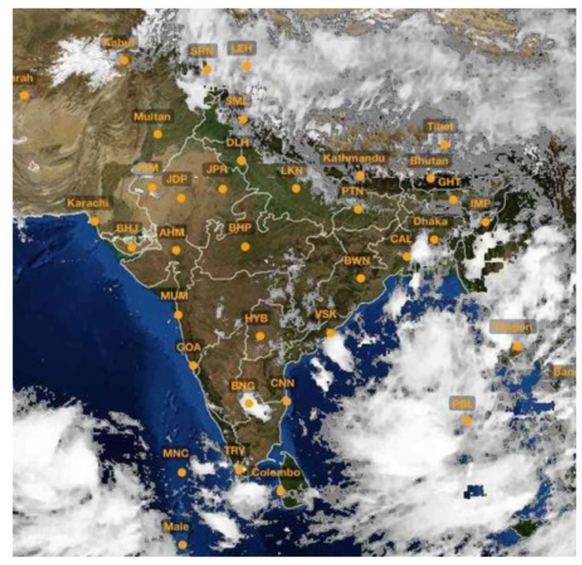
An yellow alert warning of isolated heavy rainfall was issued for two districts – Alappuzha and Ernakulam – on Thursday.

Though cyclone Biparjoy has intensified into a severe cyclonic storm and is likely to intensify further in the next 12 hours, the system has moved away from the Kerala coast.

(*With inputs from Thiruvananthapuram*)

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Manipur, Mizoram, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	36.9	27.7	Kozhikode	2.1	33.0	26.8
Ahmedabad	—	39.0	28.8	Kurnool	—	40.4	28.7
Aizawl	1	35.2	20.1	Lucknow	—	40.7	26.2
Allahabad	—	44.0	27.3	Madurai	35	38.8	24.6
Bengaluru	4.6	32.0	22.0	Mangaluru	—	34.4	26.2
Bhopal	—	—	26.4	Mumbai	—	34.6	28.8
Bhubaneswar	—	41.2	28.6	Mysuru	—	—	—
Chandigarh	2	35.8	25.4	New Delhi	—	38.4	25.2
Chennai	11	37.9	27.8	Patna	—	43.4	28.2
Coimbatore	—	35.0	25.0	Port Blair	74	30.1	22.8
Dehradun	—	35.9	20.4	Puducherry	—	34.0	24.8
Gangtok	—	26.5	16.9	Pune	—	38.4	23.6
Goa	—	35.8	27.1	Raipur	—	43.2	29.5
Guwahati	—	38.9	25.0	Ranchi	—	39.8	27.0
Hubballi	—	36.0	24.0	Shillong	0.9	26.4	18.4
Hyderabad	—	40.0	28.7	Shimla	—	24.4	14.2
Imphal	11	32.9	21.5	Srinagar	—	25.4	12.4
Jaipur	—	38.8	25.5	Thiruvananthapuram	23	32.2	23.7
Kochi	0.4	32.0	26.4	Tiruchi	—	39.5	28.5
Kohima	4	27.0	19.4	Vijayawada	—	41.6	31.0
Kolkata	—	40.0	30.0	Visakhapatnam	—	36.4	30.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.29	.47	.55	55	111	
Bengaluru	.26	.11	101	79	90	
Chennai	.4	.99	.48	96	85	
Delhi	.7	.33	.35	352	203	
Hyderabad	.12	.12	.40	87	77	
Kolkata	.10	.11	.26	86	84	
Lucknow	.12	.40	.35	135	140	
Mumbai	.34	.33	127	73	67	
Pune	119	175	115	76	68	
Visakhapatnam	.18	.55	.23	93	163	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Charkhi Dadri, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 377 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 17

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Public transport should be improved to encourage patronage: Karnataka HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Observing that use of four-wheelers is no more a luxury nowadays as people use them as a convenient mode for daily travel needs, the High Court of Karnataka on Wednesday, said that frequency of availability of public transport must be increased and made economically affordable to encourage people to use this system for daily commute.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice M.G.S. Kamal made these oral observations while hearing a PIL petition, which had raised the issue of need to widen Ballary road stretch between Mekhri junction and BDA junction to ease movement of vehicles on this congested stretch. When it was pointed out to the Bench that a large number of people use private vehicle for daily travel, Chief Justice pointed out that earlier use of two-wheeler was considered a luxury but nowadays, use of even four-wheelers not considered luxury as people, including student use four-wheelers for daily travel needs.

The Chief Justice said that citizens, particularly drivers of the vehicles should have duty towards societal well-being while pointing out that many drivers, particularly of two and three-wheelers use the streets as "playground" and many of them drive the vehicles in opposite direction on one-way roads.

The Bench asked advocate G.R. Mohan, who appeared for the petitioner, Samarpana, a cultural and social organisation, that the petitioner should come out with suggestions to improve public transport system in the city.

Frequency of availability of public transport for daily travel needs is a key area that is required attention of the authorities, the Bench observed.

'Biparjoy' likely to hit Karnataka coast with gale and rain: IMD

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The severe cyclonic storm, Biparjoy (pronounced as Biporjoy), over East-Central and adjoining South-East Arabian Sea is likely to hit the Karnataka coast with immediate effect accompanied by gale winds, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on June 7. Meanwhile, the State government and the district administrations have geared up to face any eventuality during the next five days when the cyclone impact will be felt in the region.

The IMD said that the Biparjoy was centred about 860 km West to South-West of Goa at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday and it will move nearly northwards during the next 24 hours and then north-westwards during the subsequent three days.

While gale winds, with speeds up to 140 kmph, will be visible at the centre of the cyclone, the Kerala-Karnataka-Goa coasts would witness squally weather with wind speeds reaching 35-45 kmph and gusting to 55 kmph from Wednesday till June 12, the IMD said.

Cyclone 'Biparjoy' over the Arabian Sea has rapidly intensified into a severe cyclonic storm, with meteorologists predicting a 'mild' monsoon onset. PTI

The Arabian Sea too would become rough in the region during the period. The IMD has warned fishermen not to venture into the sea for a week.

Principal Secretary (Revenue-Disaster Management) Rashmi Mahesh on Wednesday directed the Dakshina Kannada district administration to take adequate precautionary measures in view of the cyclone.

Interacting with officials through videoconferencing, Ms. Mahesh said all fishing and tourism activities along the coast should immediately be halted as the cyclone was hitting the coast at 60 kmph.

The NDRF and the SDRF teams should be kept under alert.

Deputy Commissioner M.R. Ravi Kumar said the administration has geared up to face any disaster by opening control rooms till the gram panchayat level and keeping rescue personnel under alert. A team of 100 State Disaster Relief Force members was present in the district, while the NDRF teams were expected soon.

Besides rescue personnel, local youth would be involved in rescue operations and their contact details, including that of snake catchers, were obtained. Adequate grocery and other material were stored in 92 identified rescue centres (Kalaji Kendra).

Ms. Mahesh said the Costal Security Police, the Coast Guard, and engineers attached to departments executing engineering works should be kept on alert.

Superintendent of Police P.B. Rishyanth, Additional DC Krishnamurty, Deputy Conservator of Forests Y.K. Dinesh Kumar and other officials were present a the video conference.

TTD performs bhoomi puja for Balaji temple in Navi Mumbai

Abhinay Deshpande
MUMBAI

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and his Deputy Devendra Fadnavis performed the 'Bhoomi Pooja' (groundbreaking ceremony) of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple in Navi Mumbai on Wednesday.

The temple, designed as a replica of the famous Tirumala temple in Andhra Pradesh, marks a significant milestone as the first TTD temple in the western State.

Every year, lakhs of devotees from Maharashtra visit the spiritual town of Tirumala, and later take the darshan of Sri Karveer Niwasini Ambabai Mahalaxmi at Kolhapur in Maharashtra.The world's richest Hindu temple trust, the TTD, that governs the ancient hill shrine of Lord Venkateswara, has taken the construction of at least one replica temple of Tirumla in every State and Union Territory.

The 10-acre land for the temple at Ulwe in Navi Mumbai was allotted by the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi government led by Uddhav Thackeray in April last.

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited

SL. NO.	NAME OF PROJECT	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads for Smart Road Works in ABD area Under Smart City Mission (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram - Charithraveedhi - Road ID 51B				
1	Road ID 51 B (Charithra veedhi)	2023_SCTLT_579672_1	Rs. 6,51,817/-	09-June-2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e-mail. All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in**

(Sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(WORKS)
E-Tender Notice No. 02,03&04-Dy.CE-WS-PER-2023-24-OT, Dt.03.07.2023.

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Deputy Chief Engineer/Work Shops/Perambur, Chennai-600023., southern railway, Chennai -600023 invites e-tender for the following works as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal **www.ireps.gov.in**. The tenderers/ contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted. The cost of the tender form should be made through online payment gateway available in the website by the way of multiple banks' net-banking, debit card and credit card.

Name of the work:
02. CW/PER- Execution of works & supply of materials in D1 "A" Zone which covers all buildings, watering and sewage arrangements and roads Inside Perambur Carriage Works for the period from 01.07.2023 to 30.06.2024 for Zonal Contracts.
03. LW/PER - Proposed VCU Lab for 3 phase AC Loco at LW/PER Phase -I.
04. CW/PER - Replacement of damaged high roof AC sheets and damaged, broken of north light wired glasses in Wagon Repair shop at CW/PER.

Approximate cash value (Rupees)		Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Cost of tender Form (Rs.)	Period of Completion in month(s)	Closing/Opening Date @ 14.30 hrs
Tender No	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
02	13665254.73	218300.00	0.00	12	03.07.2023
03	2703319.46	54100.00	0.00	06	03.07.2023
04	7206455.30	144100.00	0.00	06	03.07.2023

For further details refer to website portal **www.ireps.gov.in** or contact office of the Deputy Chief Engineer/Work Shops/Perambur, Chennai-600023.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, our client viz., **Sri. Sharath Kumar Reddy** is the absolute owner of the land bearing **Sy. No. 37, measuring 4 Acres 19 Guntas** situated at Kammasandra Agrahara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District. Our client had lost/misplaced the below mentioned Original Documents pertaining to the aforesaid Property. Our client has lodged the Police Complaint in concerned Police Station. Any person/s having or claiming any manner of right, title & interest over the above said Property or on below mentioned original documents may intimate the same in writing to the under signed along with documentary evidence in support of their claim within 10 days from the date of this publication, failing which, it will be presumed that below mentioned original documents are lost and our client and successors in interest or any other person/s claiming under it/him are free to deal with above said Property. As if no valid claims are subsisting against above said Property.

It is hereby informed that, the General Public are restrained from transacting the above said Property except our client or his nominees/successors in interest. If any person holding the below mentioned Documents may kindly contact the undersigned at the earliest.

SI NO	Description of Documents	Reg. Numbers
1.	Sale Deed executed by Sri. N. Thirumalaiah, son of Sri. Narasimhaiah, in favour of Sri. Doddadevaiah, son of Sri. Nanjappa	Registered vide Document No. 2951/1974-75 of Book I, Volume 1223, at Pages 160 to 161, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal, dated 19-12-1974
2.	Sale Deed executed by Sri. D. Muniyappa, son of Late Doddadevaiah and others in favour of Sri. M. Muniyappa, son of Late Munishamappa	Registered vide Document No. 216/1988-89 of Book I, Volume 1489, at Pages 239 to 241, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal, dated 18-01-1988

And whereas anyone finding the above documents, is hereby requested to hand over the same to the undersigned person at the address below mentioned.
Dated this 07th day of June 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2,
H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914 Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

Karnataka Panchayat Raj Commissionerate
Kalidasa Road, Gandhinagar,
K.G. Road, Bengaluru-560 009.

No.: KPRC/DEV/219/2023 Date: 07.06.2023

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Inviting applications from qualified and experienced professionals to join the Centre for Child Responsive Local Governance for the following posts.

1) Consultants **(Child Rights Expert) 2)** Consultants **(Local Governance Expert)**

The Centre for Child Responsive Local Governance is being set up at the Panchayat Raj Commissionerate in Bengaluru, with a UNICEF grant, to advance child rights and wellbeing of rural children in Karnataka by making local governments (Gram Panchayats) Child Responsive. The positions will require knowledge of Kannada compulsorily and extensive travel to different taluks and Gram Panchayats. Interested candidates can review the detailed Job Descriptions provided under Recruitment notifications at this link: **https://prcrdpr.karnataka.gov.in** and send in applications along with the relevant documents through the e-mail id **prc.recruitment@ka.gov.in** by **5.30 pm on June 15th, 2023.** Those who have applied earlier need not apply again.

Sd/- Commissioner,
Karnataka Panchayat Raj Commissionerate,
Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/JA/203/2023-24

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, our client viz., **Sri. Veduru Balavenkata Giriprasad** is the absolute owner of the land bearing **Sy. No. 18/2 (Old Sy. No. 18),** measuring **1 Acre 21 Guntas** & **Sy. No. 46,** measuring **9 Acres 20 Guntas**, situated at Kammasandra Agrahara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District. Our client had lost/misplaced the below mentioned Original Documents pertaining to the aforesaid Property. Our client has lodged the Police Complaint in concerned Police Station. Any person/s having or claiming any manner of right, title & interest over the above said Property or on below mentioned original documents may intimate the same in writing to the under signed along with documentary evidence in support of their claim within 10 days from the date of this publication, failing which, it will be presumed that below mentioned original documents are lost and our client and successors in interest or any other person/s claiming under it/him are free to deal with above said Property. As if no valid claims are subsisting against above said Property.

It is hereby informed that, the General Public are restrained from transacting the above said Property except our client or his nominees/successors in interest. If any person holding the below mentioned Documents may kindly contact the undersigned at the earliest.

SI NO	Date	Description of Documents
		SY. NO. 18/2 (OLD SY. NO. 18)
1.	08-11-1971	Sale Deed executed by Sri. A. Chinnaswamy in favour of Sri. A. Krishnappa is registered vide Document No. 2136/1971-72 of Book I, Volume 1165, at Pages 81 and 82, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
2.	13-08-1959	Sale Deed executed by Sri. Nanjunda Reddy in favour of Sri. Chikka Abbaiah registered vide Document No. 1749/1959-60 of Book I, Volume 870, at Pages 68 to 70, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
3.	21-11-2006	Deed of Confirmation executed by Smt. Vijaya, daughter of Late Chikka Abbaiah in favour of Sri. Veduru Bala Venkatagiri Prasad is registered vide Document No. ANK-1-00567-2010-11 of Book I, stored in CD No. ANKD256, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal, Bengaluru.
		SY. NO. 46
1.	16/12/1974	Sale Deed executed by Sri. Kanappa and others in favour of Sri. Bolappa, son of Sri. Papayya, registered vide Document No. 2992/1974-75, Volume 1225, at pages 191 to 192, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal
2.	27/12/1974	Sale Deed executed by Sri. Kanappa and others inf avour of Sri. Bolappa, son of Sri. Papayya, registered vide Document No. 2993/1974-75, Volume 1210, at pages 144 to 146, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
3.	19/01/2007	Partition Deed executed between Sri. Kaverappa and others, registered vide Document No. ANK-1-30659/2006-07, stored in C.D. No. ANKD186, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
4.	26/06/2007	Deed of Cancellation of Partition executed between Sri. Kaverappa and others, registered vide Document No. ANK-1-01281/2007-08, stored in C.D. No. ANKD201 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
5.	09/08/2007	Partition Deed executed between Smt. Putamma and others registered vide Document No. ANK-1-01734/2007-08, stored in C.D. No. ANKD202, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
6.	22-09-1994	Sale Deed executed by Sri. Timmayya, son of Sri. Yellappa and others in favour of Sri. Krishnareddy, son of Sri. Munishamireddy, registered vide Document No. 2204/1994-95 of Book I, Volume 1817, at Pages 28 to 31, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.
7.	17-11-2003	Sale Deed executed by Sri. M. Krishna Reddy, son of Late Muniswamy Reddy in favour of Sri. R. Ganesan, son of Sri. P. Ramachandran, registered vide Document No. 9670/2003-04 of Book I, stored in CD No. ANKLSR46/2003-04, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal.

And whereas anyone finding the above documents, is hereby requested to hand over the same to the undersigned person at the address below mentioned.
Dated this 07th day of June 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2,
H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914 Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

End the debate

The retention of sedition goes against the grain of current thinking

The Law Commission's recommendation that the offence of sedition be retained in penal law, albeit with some safeguards, flies in the face of current judicial and political thinking that the country may not need this colonial vestige any more. Section 124A of the IPC, which describes sedition, seeks to punish speech or writing that brings or tries to bring into hatred or contempt, or excites or tries to excite disaffection towards, the government established by law. Its validity was upheld by the Supreme Court as far back as 1962, but with the reservation that it would be a constitutionally permissible restriction on free speech, only if the offence was restricted to words that had a tendency to incite violence or cause public disorder. However, legal experts have pointed out that the panel's report fails to consider how far free speech jurisprudence has travelled since then. While keeping pending sedition cases in abeyance last year, the Court had observed that "the rigours of Section 124A of IPC are not in tune with the current social milieu". The Union government, too, had decided to reexamine and reconsider the provision. The time has come to consider the provision in the light of recent principles to test the validity of any restriction on fundamental rights, especially free speech. Given its overbroad nature, the sedition definition may not survive such scrutiny.

The Commission has sought to address two concerns usually raised about sedition: its rampant misuse and its relevance to the present day. It has repeated the hackneyed argument that a law's misuse is no ground to withdraw it. However, what it has failed to consider is that its very existence on the statute affords great scope for its unjustified use, often with deliberate intent to suppress dissent and imprison critics. It is doubtful if a mere prior sanction requirement, as mooted in the report, or a mandatory preliminary probe, will lead to fewer sedition cases. Further, the panel has argued that the fact that something is a colonial-era provision is no ground to discard it. It has justified the need to keep sedition on the penal statute by citing the various extremist and separatist movements and tendencies in the country, as well as the "ever-proliferating role of social media in propagating radicalisation". This may not be a sufficient reason to retain it, as divisive propaganda, incitement to violence and imputations affecting social harmony can be curbed by other penal provisions. In fact, an effective legal framework against hate speech is what is needed more than one to penalise speech or writing that targets the government. Notwithstanding the report, the government should consider the repeal of the provision.

Deadly billboards

Despite frequent accidents, there is no political will to regulate billboards

Incidents of giant outdoor billboards crashing and becoming death traps are no longer an exception in urban environments. Tragedies such as the deaths of three workers, in Coimbatore last week, after they were crushed by the falling steel frames of a hoarding under replacement, are no rarity. Authorities lost no time in declaring that the billboard was illegal, offering no explanation on how it stood there. Ironically, it was in April that the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies Rules 2023 were notified, with terms for the licensing of hoardings, banners and placards. Amid concerns that billboards would mushroom in cities, the Minister for Municipal Administration had explicitly said the rules were notified to ensure that unauthorised billboards are not allowed. Reports from at least two decades show the failure of many municipal corporations in curbing unlicensed hoardings. Occasional corrective actions have most often been the result of the intervention of the judiciary or triggered by fatal accidents. A case in point is that of Tamil Nadu and its capital Chennai, where thousands of unauthorised hoardings were removed on the directions of the Supreme Court in 2008, revealing hidden green landscapes and urban skylines.

Unfortunately, this action was not sustained. Among the first violators were political parties, with many leaders encouraging their larger-than-life projections on flex banners and illuminated cut-outs. Considerable outrage was triggered in Chennai in 2019, when a young woman scooterist lost her life in a road accident after she was hit by a banner put up by a political party. With lucrative outdoor advertising rights being cornered by politically influential individuals and cartels, there is little administrative will to enforce legal and all-weather structural stability requirements. A lack of manpower in municipalities to enumerate unlicensed hoardings, periodically inspect authorised billboards, and act against unstable or illegal ones, also contributes to accidents. It is of concern that the judiciary, which calls for a regulation of billboards, often passes orders restraining authorities from removing unauthorised ones. Violators deserve stringent punishment; in the case of deaths, it would be appropriate to slap graver charges, blacklist and recover compensation from them, and also prosecute complicit officials. International studies have pointed to billboards being dangerous distractions on roads as they affect a driver's response time, vehicle lateral control and situational awareness. Accidents caused by such distractions must be documented in the annual *Road Accidents in India* report. This could help devise better policies on billboards and the outdoor advertising market, globally poised to grow to $67.8 billion in 2023.

Sedition — illogical equation of government with state

P.D.T. Achary

is a former Secretary General, Lok Sabha

In its 279th Report, the Law Commission of India has recommended the retention of Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code which contains the Law of Sedition. It has also recommended enhanced punishment for this offence in the name of national security. While Section 124A provides for a minimum imprisonment of three years, the commission recommends a minimum of seven. In 2022, the Supreme Court of India had ordered a stay on all existing proceedings and also on the registration of fresh cases (*S.G. Vombatkere vs Union of India*) under sedition upon the Union Government assuring the Court of a review of this law at the earliest. The Court's stay order was in consideration of the fact that this law was widely misused by the law enforcement authorities.

An offence against government, not country

The law of sedition in India has a long and infamous history. Section 124A was incorporated in the Indian Penal Code in 1870. The purpose was to suppress the voice of Indians who spoke against the British Raj, as the government did not want any voice of dissent or protest. The wording of Section 124A clearly reveals the intention of the colonial government. Sedition is an offence against the government and not against the country, as many think. The offence is in bringing or attempting to bring in hatred or contempt or exciting or attempting to excite disaffection towards the government established by law. The offence is committed by spoken or written words, by signs or by any other means. Thus, the gist of the offence is bringing a government into hatred or contempt or causing disaffection towards the government of the day.

The law of sedition was defined and applied in two different ways during the British period. The first major case was *Queen Empress vs Bal Gangadhar Tilak* 1897 in which the Bombay Court found Bal Gangadhar Tilak guilty of sedition for writing a couple of articles in *Kesari*, a Marathi weekly, invoking Shivaji, which was interpreted as exciting disaffection towards the British government. Judge Stratchy explained the law as: "The offence (Sedition) consists in exciting or attempting to excite in others certain bad feelings towards the government. It is not the exciting or attempting to excite mutiny or rebellion or any sort of actual disturbance great or small.... but even if he neither excited nor intended to excite any rebellion or outbreak or forcible resistance to the authority of the government that is sufficient to make him guilty under the Section." Later, the Privy Council upheld this exposition of law. Thus,sedition meant exciting or attempting to excite bad feelings towards the government. It was a very draconian law.

The second case was *Niharendu Dutt Majumdar And Ors. vs Emperor* which was decided by the Federal Court. Acquitting the accused Majumdar, Sir Mauris Gwyer, Chief Justice, explained the law as: "Public disorder or the reasonable anticipation or likelihood of public disorder is thus the gist of the offence."

These two statements of the law of sedition given by two courts in British India differ from one another. One defines sedition as disaffection, which was interpreted as 'political hatred of government' and comes within the mischief of sedition. The other interprets it to mean that the offence is committed only when there is incitement to violence or disorder.

It may be noted that the Privy Council, the highest appellate court of that time, approved the law stated by Justice Stratchy in Tilak's case. Further, it is said that the opinion of the Privy Council on sedition was not brought to the notice of the Federal Court when it decided Majumdar's case. Otherwise it would have followed the Privy Council's decision.

'Kedarnath' and constitutionality of sedition

The brief journey into the British era is necessary to better understand the judgment in *Kedarnath vs State of Bihar* (1962) by the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court and the Law Commission's recommendations for incorporating the essence of that judgment.

Kedarnath decided the constitutionality of sedition. The Court held that it is constitutionally valid for two reasons. One, sedition, though an offence against the government, is against the state because the government is a visible symbol of state and the existence of the state will be in jeopardy if the government is subverted. Second, Article 19(2) imposes restrictions in the interest of the security of the state which has wider amplitude and which includes the law on sedition.

Sedition is an offence against the government. Anyone who causes disaffection towards the government is liable to be prosecuted under this law. Disaffection has been defined as 'political hatred' towards the government by the full Bench of the Bombay High Court which upheld the punishment of Tilak. So, causing political hatred towards the government in the minds of the public is the offence of sedition. In this sense, it clearly violates the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution. In a democratic republic where people have the freedom to change a bad government, disaffection towards a government cannot be an offence. In fact, it is a part of the democratic process and experience. Therefore, making it an offence directly conflicts with the fundamental rights of citizens. We cannot expect citizens to have any affection towards a bad government.

> In a democratic republic where the people have the freedom to change a bad government, disaffection towards a government cannot be an offence

The law declared by the Privy Council was final, according to which even a gesture which indicates political hatred towards the government comes within the mischief of sedition. Obviously, sedition contained in Section 124A goes against Article 19(1)(a).

However, the Supreme Court had, in an attempt to declare sedition constitutionally valid, admittedly adopted the Federal Court's approach and held that Section 124A is valid but can be invoked only when the words or gestures have a tendency to incite violence. The Court was aware that sedition, as it is worded in Section 124A in IPC and interpreted by the Privy Council, could not have remained in the statute book after the Constitution came into force in 1950. The Court was also conscious of the fact that sedition, as a reasonable restriction on the right of speech and expression, was deleted from the draft Constitution by the Constituent Assembly.

The implication was clear. Sedition was not meant to be a reasonable restriction. But the Court wanted to retain sedition because it was genuinely worried about an imminent communist revolution in the country, which Kedarnath, a local communist in Begu Sarai in Bihar was advocating. But, on a closer scrutiny, we will find that the position taken by the court in *Kedarnath* is not radically different from *Tilak*. As per *Kedarnath*, a tendency to incite disorder would amount to sedition, and actual disorder need not occur. So, in substance there is not much difference between *Kedarnath* and *Tilak*.

The Law Commission has suggested that the tendency to incite disorder should be incorporated in Section 124A. The commission defines tendency as a slight inclination. It is a policeman who will detect the tendency to incite disorder in a speech or article, and the citizen will be behind bars for seven years or even for life. In fact, the *Kedarnath* judgment did not soften the law on sedition. If anything it has brought it closer to the judgment in *Tilak* without mitigating the rigour of the law. The recommendation for the enhancement of punishment defies common sense when there is a universal demand for the scrapping of this law. The commission could not see the absurdity of a law which punishes citizens of a democratic country for making comments which may cause disaffection towards a government which they have the power to remove.

It is unconstitutional

The real issue is that the law of sedition contained in Section 124A of the IPC is unconstitutional. The Law Commission failed or did not want to see the fallacy in the *Kedarnath* judgment which did not in effect soften this harsh law but declared that it is constitutionally valid. *Kedarnath* equates government with state, which is illogical in the context of a democratic republic. Therefore, its attempt to bring sedition within the framework of reasonable restriction under Article 19(2) is constitutionally impermissible.

Nigeria's new President faces old problems

Mahesh Sachdev

a career diplomat, was India's High Commissioner to Nigeria during 2008-13. He is author of the book, 'Nigeria: A Business Manual'

May 29 was a historic yin-and-yang moment for Nigeria, Africa's most populous country and largest economy. On the positive side, a peaceful and orderly transfer of power followed a general election with Bola Ahmed Tinubu, 70, being sworn in in Abuja as Nigeria's 16th Executive President. He was also the seventh elected leader, completing a quarter of a century of unbroken constitutional democracy. This puts Nigeria as an outlier in a continent with a merited reputation for political instability.

Issues and solutions

Yet, this stellar accomplishment stands diminished by a stubborn constant: a puzzling inability of the Nigerian leadership to realise the evident socio-economic potential of this oil-rich and fertile country known for competent professionals and entrepreneurs. Endemic issues of insecurity, high unemployment and corruption have long defied resolution. Nigeria has the dubious distinction of having the world's largest number of people below the poverty line and children out of school. Insecurity has been a recurrent feature, with reports punctuated by Boko Haram carnage, mass kidnappings for ransom, bloody ethnic conflicts and petty robberies. Despite various "energetic" attempts, the country's grid power generation has remained stuck at around 4GW – approximately half the peak power consumption of Delhi. Even after spending $25 billion on revamping the oil refineries, these continue to operate at less than 30% of their capacity, forcing the oil-exporting country to import petroleum products. Theft of the crude and its "bunkering" is estimated to cost the country $5.4 billion annually, and fund illegal activities including armed militias.

Nigeria's socioeconomic recovery and sustainable development would need front-loading of its multiple assets. First, Nigeria has a reasonably competent civil service and professional security establishment and the political elite should allow them to handle the issues without being ridden roughshod. Second, a proactive hand holding of Nigeria's vibrant entrepreneurial class, particularly its informal sector, could drive economic growth. Third, Nigeria is a young society, with a median age of 18.3 years; they desperately need better education, skilling and jobs. Fourth, Nigeria is blessed with large swathes of fertile, irrigated land, and reversing its neglect of the farming sector can make the country food self-dependent. Lastly, the oil sector, the mainstay of exports and government revenue, needs better focus. Nigeria's current crude production capacity is 1.56 mbpd, which is significantly lower than its Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) ceiling of 1.742 mbpd. This gap needs plugging by curbing oil theft and bunkering.

> Nigeria faces a binary situation — a peaceful and orderly transfer of power contrasted by a puzzling inability to realise the socio-economic potential of an oil-rich and fertile country

The rollout of reforms

To his credit, the incoming President has acknowledged these stubborn challenges and vowed to confront them. Having been a Governor of Lagos State, Nigeria's economic capital, a long-standing political "kingmaker" and a businessman in his own right, he knows what needs doing and how. He has lost no time in initiating the badly needed, but politically difficult, economic policy reforms. Within days of taking over, the national currency, the Naira, has been sharply devalued. The oil product subsidy, costing roughly $10 billion annually, has also been abolished. These long-needed disruptors raise hope for an eventual end to Nigeria's long economic sclerosis.

Several factors predicate Nigeria becoming more important in the foreseeable future, globally and for India. Thanks to its high birth rate, Nigeria's population is expected to double by 2050 to cross 400 million, then the world's fourth largest. How Nigeria harnesses its human resource and natural wealth (such as oil and gas and land) would matter globally. This would be a double-edged sword: either leveraging a huge demographic dividend or a society scrimmaging ever more intensely for untapped and more scarce resources. The country already has enormous influence over Sub-Saharan Africa, often serving as a role model and trendsetter, and its role is destined to rise further.

India's stakes

India, too, has important stakes in the political stability and progress of Nigeria, which besides being a friendly Commonwealth country is also a large economic partner. Over 50,000 people of Indian origin live in Nigeria, its largest non-African community. As a rule, Nigerians value India's appropriate technology which is seen as well-suited to the local conditions. Nigeria has over 135 Indian-owned companies; collectively, these are the second-largest employer in the country. The total Indian investments in Nigeria are estimated to be in the vicinity of $10 billion. Although India has traditionally been Nigeria's largest trading partner, its position has slid down as the bilateral trade shrunk by 21% in 2022-23 to $11.852 billion.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh represented India at the presidential swearing-in. This is quite apt as bilateral defence cooperation has a glorious past: six of Nigeria's past 15 Presidents were India-trained defence officers. The Defence Minister's visit would help revive these ties. Mr Tinubu's campaign slogan was "*Emi lo kan*" or "It's my turn" in Yoruba language. With enhanced engagement, India should be able to use the same catchphrase to resonate with Nigeria.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A deepening war

The blowing up of the Kakhovka dam, in turn causing concern about the functioning of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant and drinking water supply, shows that the war between Russia and Ukraine has entered a new and dangerous phase ('World' page, June 7). What is curious here is that just like the drone attack in Petersburg earlier, both Russia and Ukraine are blaming each other for the catastrophe. As part of the war strategy, a counter attack is to be expected in more or equal measure.

J. Radhakrishna Kurup,
Ettumanoor, Kottayam, Kerala

We wonder when wiser counsel will prevail on both nations for much needed reconciliation. It is the primary duty of leaders across the world to ensure this. Why is there no action?

N. Balachandar,
Chennai

Need for a mango board

The recent rains and hailstorms in several parts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have caused havoc to mango orchards, as the crucial flowering stage has been ruined. Last year too, crop yields were abysmal but for a different reason — a lack of adequate rains.

In Rayalaseema, the mango is the only crop which sustains farmers; every inch of farmland is under mango trees in a few districts such as Chittoor, Annamayya, Cuddapah and Tirupati as well as almost all the north Andhra districts. A separate mango board on the lines of the Coffee, Tea or Rubber Boards, will address the needs of mango farmers in terms of having a minimum support price for the crop and addressing problems associated with procuring manure and fertilizers, and pest control. When it comes to marketing the crop, growers are at the mercy of the managements of private pulp factories, who form cartels and adopt questionable methods to try and buy mangoes at throwaway prices during the season.

K.S.S. Seshan,
Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Tackling the human-dog conflict

Alokparna Sengupta

is an animal advocate with over 15 years of experience and Managing Director of Humane Society International/India

Dogs have evoked different emotions in people for hundreds of years. You can hate them or love them, but you cannot ignore them. Over the past few decades, for example, the growing population of street dogs has posed increasing challenges for municipalities and cities across the country. With so many interest holders and their beliefs, it has been difficult to discuss the issue as many emotions are involved.

The cynicism of some stakeholders has even led to the dismissal of animal birth control initiatives as a failure, which is both mischievous and wrong-headed.

Various factors contribute to street dog overpopulation, and animal birth control, while being an integral measure, is only a part of the broad solution to a complex problem. Other components are needed.

Work in progress

By disparaging the effects of the Prevention of Cruelty (Animal Birth Control) Rules 2001, critics overlook the progressive trajectory of the policy which has now produced The Prevention of Cruelty (Animal Birth Control) Rules 2023 rules that have been designed to address emerging challenges.

If there are further challenges after the implementation of the 2023 rules, we will see more policy reform. That is how public policy works. We should seek to improve our strategies and policy responses, and not give up and discard animal birth control altogether.

What the proponents of the new rules want is the same thing that its critics want; a safe society for everyone – humans and dogs alike. To argue that the groups or individuals that care for animals have no consideration for humankind is misleading and disingenuous. Regardless of the motivation for an Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme, all stakeholders benefit.

The Prevention of Cruelty (Animal Birth Control) Rules 2023 is a humane approach that balances out the welfare of dogs while taking into consideration the concerns of humans

Yes, it is in the welfare of the animals that we do not cull them. But it is in the interest of society and its collective conscience and decency too. We should seek out ways to show that we are more than just selfish creatures.

Seeming alternatives

What are the alternatives to ABC? First, there is culling, and it can be easily characterised as a cruel solution. We have seen it being put to practice and our dog population has bounced back time and again.

Confinement in pounds or shelters? Of course, there is a place for them. But they are economically unviable and unsustainable.

The room freed up on our streets as a result of round-ups and culling will be filled by dogs that end up there because of abandonment, free-roaming and breeding pets and street dogs. This is no kind of solution.

That leaves us with ABC – a seemingly imperfect solution but only because it has never been uniformly implemented. The 2023 rules attempt to resolve that shortcoming by standardising processes.

ABC programmes are now being streamlined, and the burden of its implementation will fall on the ABC monitoring committees at the State, district and municipality levels. The rules require updated infrastructure investments for the capture, housing, surgery and release of dogs; specific processes to be recorded such as keeping and reporting; procedures for responding to conflict situations; engagement of organisations to ensure that the standards of ABC are high; and differentiation of street dogs from pet dogs to improve data collection and analysis.

There is another dimension of the problem that we consistently ignore, and at our peril – irresponsible pet ownership. Because of this persistent factor, a significant number of dog bites occur, uncontrolled reproduction takes place and territorial behaviour arises in most animal communities.

Yes, a scientific approach is required to tackle the street dog conflict and population issue. But there is a social marketing and human behaviour change component that demands our attention too. Instead of attacking each other, we must bring our shared expertise and commitment to bear on this complex societal problem. If there is no research on the benefits of ABC on dogs, we must put our money into it. If there is no research on dog bite mitigation, we must fund such research and create model programmes we can scale up. If there are poor ABC programmes, organisations must take ownership and improve their standards through training.

Dogs are true friends to humanity and if we cannot live happily, safely and peacefully with each other through simple solutions such as ABC, responsible pet ownership, waste management and adoption of Indian dogs (as opposed to feeding the commercial pet trade through animal purchases), what real hope is there for our efforts to tackle still larger problems that plague our society.

The right attitude

If we wish to change the system, we must be a part of it and we must play a constructive role in encouraging additional reforms and resource investments.

We need to come together and join hands not only for the dogs but also for the future generations of Indians. We can do them a real favour by sparing them from having to grow up in an India that has been all too complacent about solving the street dog problem.

We must do away forever with the suffering, cruelty, misery and public health threats associated with archaic approaches to this challenge. The new rules, and the energy we invest in their implementation, will help us achieve this noblest of goals.

Gehlot tries out his welfare card

Congress's basket of schemes has a little bit of something for everyone

STATE OF PLAY

Sobhana K. Nair
sobhanak.nair@thehindu.co.in

A video from the *Labharthi Utsav* (festival for beneficiaries) organised by the Rajasthan government on Monday went viral on social media. In the video, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot is seen quizzing a woman over video conference on the number of welfare schemes she is availing. After the woman, a widow, the lone earning member in a household of two children and ageing mother-in-law, lists out the schemes she has enrolled for, and Mr. Gehlot asks, "Do you have cows?" Pat comes the reply, "No, I only have a *mithu* (parrot)". Mr. Gehlot's question was aimed at enlightening her about his government's cattle insurance scheme – Mukhyamantri Kamdhenu Pashu Bima Yojana. But there aren't any government insurance schemes, at least yet, for pet parrots.

The Gehlot government is on an overdrive highlighting a bouquet of welfare schemes, and reaching out to individual beneficiaries for direct feedback and expanding this base of beneficiaries or *labharthi*.

The word was introduced to the everyday political lexicon of the country by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP. Sometime around the 2019 Lok Sabha election, the BJP started the "*labharthi*" narrative, exploiting the world's oldest division of "haves" and "have-nots" to unite the latter group, which has been historically numerically stronger beyond the divisions of caste, community, gender and religion.

With elections less than five months away, the Congress

government led by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has embraced it. Monday's event was the second edition of the *Labharthi Utsav* (the first one was held on March 30), a mega carnival that also doubles up as a platform to showcase his government's achievements.

The Gehlot government's Mary Poppins-like bag has a scheme for everyone; health and accident insurance schemes (Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana & Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Durghatna Bima Yojana) and the Mukhyamatri Kisan Mitra Urja Yojana which provides up to 2,000 units of power free for the farmers. Along with this, up to 100 units of domestic electricity have been made free. Rajasthan is the only State in the country to keep aside nearly ₹900 crore for its urban employment guarantee scheme – the Indira Gandhi Shehari Rozgar Guarantee scheme.

People's money

"It's people's money being used for people's interest," Mr. Gehlot says, waiving off the Opposition questions on the fiscal wisdom behind such an exercise.

At the core of the "*labharthi* push" is also the fear of the oscillating pendulum of power that has alternated between the BJP and the Congress since 1998. The other hope is that the capacious *labharthi* umbrella could perhaps neutralise the traditional caste rivalries in the Gujjar versus Meena and the Jat versus Rajput conflicts, that have often tripped many political giants. Not to forget, the State's former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot who is on a rebellious course. Can the *labharthi* euphoria paper over the intra-party schisms?

Much like the BJP, the Congress is hoping that a casteless monolith of beneficiaries will stand by it in elections.

A government extending a bunch of welfare schemes is neither unprecedented nor unique. Cynics within the party point out that during Mr. Gehlot's previous tenure, 2008-13, he had similarly championed the Mukhyamantri Nishulk Dava Yojana (MNDY) or the free medicine scheme that provided generic drugs free of cost. This was a runaway success. But it did not win him the election. From the 96 seats it won in 2008, the Congress was down to 21 and the Vasundhara Rajeled BJP government came to power with a whopping 163 seats in an Assembly of 200.

But believers point out that the key difference between the two tenures is that back then the government did not "talk enough" about its work. "There is no denying that there is anger against many of the Congress legislators, but the *labharthi*-push will create a pro-incumbency buzz strong enough for people to vote for Mr. Gehlot, even if they do not want to vote for the individual Congress legislator," a Congress MLA said. Another dozen-odd "*Labharthi Utsav*" have been planned before the election schedule is announced later this year.

The party is hoping Mr. Gehlot, who comes from a community of magicians, will pull a rabbit out of his hat and cast a spell on the electorate.

Parsing the inflation story of the past year

The Ukraine-Russia conflict exacerbated an already fraught global trade and production system

DATA POINT

The Hindu Data Team

The latest annual report released by the RBI highlights the factors and disruptors that heightened inflation levels across the world. It also identifies the specific commodities that affected inflation across different components, like food, fuel and core inflation.

In 2022, global inflation reached its highest levels in decades in both advanced economies and emerging markets. This acceleration was largely attributed to the significant increase in food and energy prices caused by disruptions in the supply chain after the war in Ukraine.

International food prices have decreased since the May 2022 peak, owing to improved conditions in the supply of edible oils and grains. Yet, it remained higher than what it was before the war as trade restrictions and adverse weather conditions continue to impact food production in major producer-countries.

The changes in global commodity prices resulted in a surge in consumer price inflation in advanced economies (AEs) and emerging market and developing economies (EMDEs), prompting monetary policy tightening throughout the year.

Chart 1 shows the inflation in various countries/regions in the last six years. During the 2022-23 period, India faced a significant increase in inflation. Retail inflation remained above the upper limit of the inflation target for several months between January and October 2022. In April 2022, inflation peaked at 7.8%, driven by a sharp increase in three major categories: food, fuel, and core inflation (excluding food and fuel). This rise was the result of the disruption in supply, higher global commodity prices, and currency depreciation.

When the supply chain pressures finally normalised and input costs eased due to a decline in global commodity prices, inflationary pressures also lessened. However, it surged once again in the first two months of 2023 due to an unexpected increase in cereal prices which then moderated in March 2023.

Chart 2 shows the inflation of various major components in India across the years. Inflation in the food and beverages category, which accounts for 45.9% of retail inflation, fluctuated between 4.6% and 8.4%, due to surges in costs of global food and fertilizer, heatwaves, rising costs of farming inputs, and seasonal price patterns.

In the first half of the year, India experienced an acceleration in food inflation, influenced by higher prices of vegetables, animal proteins, cereals, and related products. However, by the second half, inflation moderated. Food and beverages inflation averaged 6.7% during this period compared with 4.2% in the previous year, with an increase in five sub-groups (**Chart 3**). Food inflation did, however, decrease in the remaining seven sub-groups.

Fuel inflation remained in double digits for the major part of the year due to high domestic LPG and kerosene prices, in line with internal prices. However, the inflation moderated as the global crude oil prices cooled. Inflation excluding volatile food and fuel, or the core inflation, showed a slight uptick to an average of 6.1% in 2022-23 - a marginal increase from 2021-22. It reached a peak of 7.1% in April 2022 and remained around 6% from May 2022. Inflation in the transport and communication sector gradually decreased after a sharp increase in the first quarter of 2022-23.

Chart 4 shows a widespread increase in core prices, with over 70% of items experiencing rates higher than 4% in 2022-23. Clothing and footwear inflation increased significantly, averaging 9.5% during this period.

The vagaries of price rise

The charts have been sourced from the Annual Report 2022-23 released by the Reserve Bank of India

Chart 1: The chart shows the inflation in various countries/regions in the last six years

Chart 2: The chart shows the inflation of various major components in India across the years

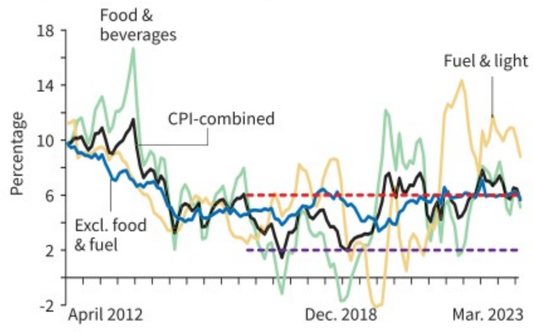


Chart 3: The chart shows the inflation across major food sub-groups. Inflation increased in five sub-groups and decreased in seven

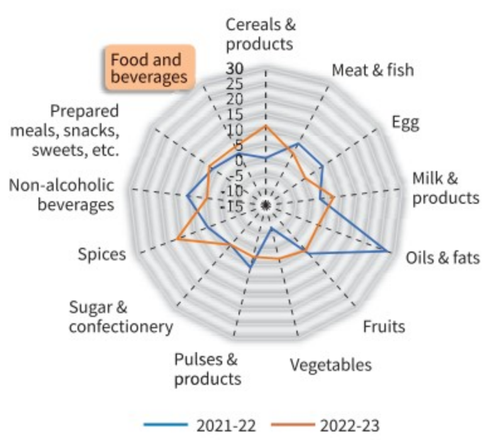
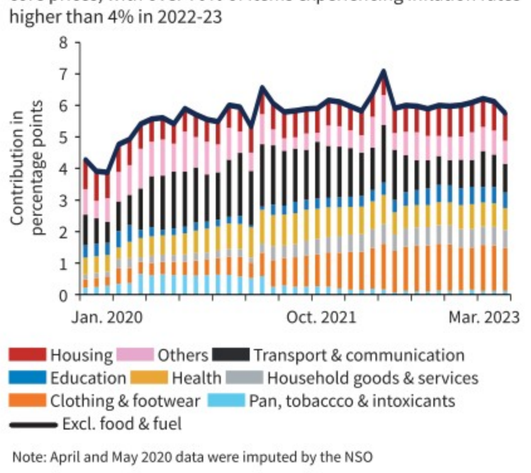


Chart 4: The chart shows the drivers of retail inflation excluding food and fuel. There was a widespread increase in core prices, with over 70% of items experiencing inflation rates higher than 4% in 2022-23



Note: April and May 2020 data were imputed by the NSO

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 8, 1973

Astronauts walk in space, repair skylab

Houston, June 7. The Skylab's two spacewalkers to-day opened a jammed solar electric generating wing critically needed to end the space station's power crisis and prolong the productive life of America's first space station.

"We got the wing out locked", reported Skylab Commander Charles Conrad after struggling for more than two hours outside the huge research station.

Mission Control reported jubilantly that the glassy solar cells in the 30-foot panel were successfully converting sunlight into electricity.

Conrad and Joseph P. Kerwin reported that the wings were not fully deployed but were partly folded like a half open accordion.

It was the first time a spaceship was repaired by astronauts in a walk in space. The feat apparently solved the Skylab's energy crisis and presumably assured the space station of a long productive life in space.

Conrad and Kerwin began their historic repair job when they emerged from the Skylab in darkness. They waited for half an hour for the sun to come up and then bogged down trying to rig a bandrail to the damaged solar wing assembly.

The rail was finally latched to the solar wing by the jaws of a metal cutter strapped to the end of the 25-foot handrail. Then Conrad moved hand-over-hand down the side of the Skylab and was working there when the ship swept out of radio contact with the Earth.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 8, 1923

Silver Market

(Reuter's Special Service) London, June 6

Montagu's silver report states, the market was influenced by the news that the Pittman Act had practically ceased to be a bull factor. The continent sold free and fresh bear sales were made. America has also been a seller. Indian bazaars bought freely for shipment. China yesterday resumed buying, comparatively low level prevailing. In view of the fact that the fall is largely sentimental and the United States output is unlikely, for some months to come, to add the world's supplies, the present rate of forward silver would seem to be fairly low, though there are rumours that more continental selling is imminent.

From Page One

Wrestlers suspend stir on Minister's assurance

On May 28, the protesting wrestlers were booked for violating law and order when they marched towards the new Parliament building.

While June 15 has been set as a deadline, Mr. Punia said if no action was taken till the said date, their agitation would continue. Mr. Punia said, of all the points discussed, the government had promised them a fair probe and assured that the WFI election would take place by June 30. "Concerning the election for the WFI, there will be no discrimination and nobody with a criminal background will be up for the position of president," Mr. Punia said. The plan, according to the wrestlers, is to address all the points discussed in the meeting with Mr. Thakur with *khap* leaders, farmer leaders, women-led organisations to decide further. Regarding wrestler Vinesh Phogat not attending the meeting, Mr. Punia said, "She has been in talks with us regarding all points of discussion. Her health hasn't been doing good, due to which she could not join the protest."

Later, Mr. Thakur addressed a press conference. Mr. Thakur said the probe would be over by June 15 and a chargesheet would be filed in the court. "They have said that they will not hold any agitation until then," he told reporters.

'Meeting positive'

The Sports Minister said the meeting with the wrestlers was positive. "I had invited them on behalf of the government yesterday. Today, we held a cordial discussion on the sensitive issue," he said. Mr. Thakur said he heard all their demands and assured them of full cooperation from the government. He said that as per their demands, the elections for the post of WFI president would be held by June 30 and that an Internal Complaint Committee, headed by a woman, would be established in the Federation. He also said that the players would be consulted on the election of the office-bearers of the WFI. He added that the wrestlers also demanded that nobody related to Mr. Singh be allowed to be part of the WFI.

Govt. hikes kharif MSP; farmers demand more

"In agriculture, we have been fixing MSP from time to time based on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The increase in MSP of the kharif crops for this year is highest compared with the previous years," Mr. Goyal said.

Apart from paddy, new MSPs have been set for major pulses. The MSP for moong is ₹8,558 a quintal, an increase of ₹803 from last year. The MSP for tur or arhar has been set at ₹7,000 a quintal, which is estimated to be 58% above the cost of production. This is in keeping with the Centre's promise to set MSPs which are at least one-and-a-half times the all-India weighted average cost of production.

"The expected margin to farmers over their cost of production are estimated to be highest in case of bajra (82%) followed by tur (58%), soybean (52%) and urad (51%)," said an official statement.

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM), a platform of about 500 farm outfits, questioned the Centre's claims and said the new MSPs were not linked to the real expenses of farming. Senior SKM leader Ashok Dhawale said that the MSP for kharif crops is nowhere near the C2+50% formula proposed by the Swaminathan Commission.

4G, 5G roll-out: BSNL gets ₹89,047-cr. package

The authorised capital of BSNL will be increased from ₹1,50,000 crore to ₹2,10,000 crore. The package has a total outlay of ₹89,047 crore. "After a few months of field deployment [of 4G and 5G networks], it will be rapidly rolled out across the country on BSNL network," the government said.

The first two revival packages in 2019 and 2022 of ₹69,000 crore and ₹1.64 lakh crore, respectively, allowed the embattled state-owned operator to start booking operating profits and pay off its adjusted gross revenue dues.

Curfew imposed in Kolhapur after protest

Following fracas between groups of Hindus and Muslims, the police resorted to lathicharge and got the situation under control by late afternoon, clearing the streets of the protesters. Prohibitory orders have been imposed till June 19 banning the assembly of five or more persons. "The situation is fully under control. We appeal to people not to believe rumours circulating on social media," said Sunil Phulari, Special Inspector General of Police (Kolhapur range).

Stating that maintaining law and order was the government's responsibility, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde urged people not to take law into their own hands. Home Minister Devendra Fadnavis said the State government would not tolerate anyone "glorifying Aurangzeb" in the land of Chhatrapati Shivaji. The NCP, the Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) and the Congress accused the ruling Shiv Sena-BJP of deliberately fomenting communal riots.

Recovery of looted police arms begins in Manipur

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Security forces combed hill and Valley areas of Manipur on Wednesday to recover arms and ammunition that were snatched, looted, or taken away from police armouries during the ongoing ethnic violence in the State. A total of 868 arms and 11,518 ammunition pieces have been recovered so far, according to Kuldiep Singh, Security Adviser, Manipur government. More than 4,000 weapons were looted since May 3.

The security forces led by the Army roped in executive magistrates to make the recoveries.

An order by the Manipur Home Department stated that "in view of the prevailing law and order situation in the State, Army formations have requested detailing of Magistrates for conduct of combing operations in various districts."

In the last 24 hours, 57 arms, 318 ammunition pieces and five bombs had been recovered from Porompat police station, Imphal East and Sugnu police station, Kakching district, Mr. Singh said in a press statement.

Gangster Sanjeev Jeeva shot dead in Lucknow civil court

One person held; a constable and six-year-old girl suffer injuries; incident happened when Jeeva was brought to court for a hearing in a case

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Notorious gangster Sanjeev Maheshwari, alias Jeeva, was shot dead on the premises of a Lucknow court on Wednesday. In the firing, an Uttar Pradesh police constable and a six-year-old girl suffered injuries.

The U.P. Police have apprehended one of the assailants, identified as Vijay Yadav, who is being interrogated.

After the gruesome incident, senior U.P. police officers rushed to the court while a section of lawyers staged a protest raising slogans against the police for failing to maintain law and order in the court.

The U.P. police said that the history-sheeter, a resident of Muzaffarnagar in western U.P., was shot near the door of the courtroom of SC/ST court number 3 while being brought for a hearing in a case. He was being held in a Lucknow jail and was said to be associated with criminal-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari.

On the spot: Bloodstains inside the Lucknow civil court where gangster Sanjeev Jeeva was shot dead on Wednesday. ANI

SIT formed

The U.P. government formed a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT), led by Mohit Agarwal, Additional Director General (Technical), to probe into the matter.

The Opposition attacked the State government, saying that such incidents lead to panic.

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) president and former Chief Minister Mayawati said, "The shooting that took place on the Lucknow court premises today is a big challenge for the government in terms of law and order and crime control in U.P. There is a lot of panic among the general public due to such incidents. Government should take strict steps, this is the demand of BSP."

Nomination window open for *The Hindu Businessline* Changemaker Award

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Hindu Businessline Changemaker Awards, 2023 is open for nominations. This is the time to celebrate the unsung heroes among us; those have deeply influenced change in society through their actions and deeds, communities, mindsets or in physical spaces to make the world a better place to live in.

The nomination window is open till July 11 for the public to nominate changemakers. Nomination can be made across five categories of awards – Changemaker: Social Transformation; Changemaker: Digital Transformation; Changemaker: Financial Transformation; Young Changemaker and Iconic Changemaker. One flagship award goes to the 'Changemaker of the Year' for a person or organisation that has ushered in far-reaching change.

Once the nomination window closes, the applications will be screened and evaluated by *Businessline* along with its knowledge partners (Deloitte and Ashoka). The shortlisted nominees will be validated by validation partner (Niiti Consulting) before the list is sent to an independent jury to pick the winners in each category. The Changemakers section on *BusinessLine* website has details of past winners and more information about the awards, the qualification criteria, details about various categories and past winners.

Raghuvir Srinivasan, Editor, *Businessline*, said, "The Changemaker Awards embody the spirit of *Businessline*. These awards can be a powerful inspiration and recognition for those whose work has positively impacted communities across the spectrum."

Log on to https://bit.ly/43hCIKC to nominate.

Bifurcation demand: 10 Manipur MLAs get showcause notice

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

The 10 MLAs had raised the bifurcation demand soon after ethnic clashes broke out in the State

The Privilege and Ethics Committee (PEC) of the 60-member Manipur Assembly has asked 10 MLAs to explain why they demanded a separate administration for a group of ethnic communities.

The 10 MLAs, including seven of the BJP, had raised the bifurcation demand soon after ethnic clashes broke out between the majority Meitei and the Kuki-Chin-Zomi people on May 3. Issuing a showcause notice to the MLAs, the committee set June 16 as the deadline for them to respond.

Sapam Nishikant Singh, Chairman of the PEC, said members of the panel deliberated on two complaints by local residents – one against the 10 MLAs to the Assembly Speaker and the other against Kimneo Haokip Hangshing, the MLA representing the Saikul Assembly constituency.

"The committee issued showcause notices to each of the 10 MLAs asking them to explain why they raised the demand that can lead to the disintegration of Manipur. Proceedings against them would be taken up after the expiry of the June 16 deadline," Mr. Singh told journalists after the meeting on Wednesday.

A report would accordingly be submitted to the Speaker, he said.

'Breach of oath'

According to the complaint by O. Joy, the demand of the 10 tribal MLAs was unethical and a breach of oath.

Apart from the Manipur Assembly Speaker, he had submitted a complaint to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Lok Sabha Speaker, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, State Governor Anusuiya Uikey, and the State Opposition leader on May 24.

Victim of mob attack, MLA and Kuki leader battles for life in Delhi hospital

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Vungzagin Valte, 61, can barely move without assistance. He has lost his voice. The three-time legislator belonging to the Kuki community, who is an adviser to Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on tribal affairs, is among the first victims of the Kuki-Meitei ethnic violence that has claimed over 100 lives in the northeastern State since May 3.

As Mr. Valte, a BJP MLA for the Thanlon constituency, battles a skull injury in a private hospital in Delhi for the past one month, his son Joseph Valte (29) said that till now, no one from the party had either visited or called the family.

Mr. Joseph said his father is like a child now and has to be taught to talk and walk again following the injuries he suffered when a mob assaulted him on May 4. His face was damaged and doctors inserted a platinum plate to fix his jaw.

BJP MLA Vungzagin Valte, who was attacked by protesters, was brought to a hospital, in Imphal on May 5. ANI

Recalling the incident, Mr. Joseph said he had last spoken to his father on the morning of May 4 when the latter was leaving from the Chief Minister's Office after a meeting.

He said after Mr. Valte left the Secretariat for his official residence at Lamphelpat, his official car was stopped by a group of people. He and his driver, Thanghoulal, also a Kuki, were taken to a community centre nearby. The Personal Security Officer (PSO), Elangbam Mapu, a Meitei, was spared and was asked to run for safety.

"He was first stunned by a Taser gun and then repeatedly hit on the skull by a sharp object. Had it been a mob, he would have had injuries on other parts of his body. It was a targeted attack, and we believe he and his driver were tortured for hours before being left for dead," Mr. Joseph said.

"It was the Chief Minister who arranged for his airlift to the Delhi hospital. The driver could not be taken along as he had severe injuries on his neck and doctors advised against it. Two days later, the driver died in the hospital," said Joseph.

Kuki women stage protest outside Shah's residence

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

With ethnic clashes continuing in Manipur, hundreds of Kuki-Zomi women on Wednesday held a demonstration in front of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's residence here, seeking his urgent intervention to end the violence.

The women, under the aegis of Kuki Women's Forum (KWF), Delhi-NCR, in a memorandum to the Home Minister, said that despite his call for peace, "Meitei militants with full backing of the Manipur armed police" had attacked and burned Kuki-Zomi villages "daily".

Meanwhile, the Congress on Wednesday asked why Prime Minister Narendra Modi was "still silent" on the violence in Manipur and why he did not visit the State and make an appeal for reconciliation.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh also asked why the Prime Minister did not encourage an all-party delegation to visit Manipur.

Six workers crushed to death under train in Odisha

The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

Six daily-wage labourers deployed for track maintenance near the Jajpur Keonjhar Road Station in Odisha were killed on Wednesday when a goods train under which they had taken shelter from a storm began moving. One person was critically injured.

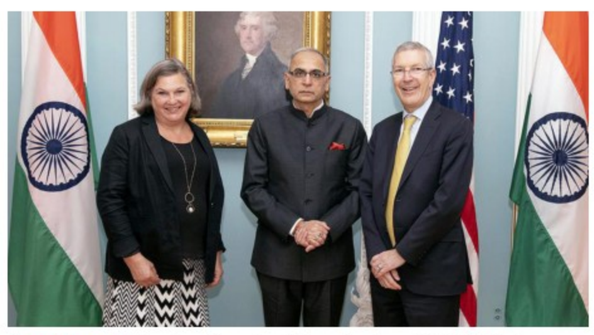
"As the rake began moving under the impact of strong wind and rain, they tried to escape. But they came under the wheels of the coaches," said Biswajit Sahu, Chief Public Relation Officer, East Coast Railway.

India, U.S. review export control regulations

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

India and the U.S. pledged to streamline their export control regimes for critical technologies at the inaugural India-U.S. Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD), as senior delegations led by Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra and U.S. Under Secretary of State Victoria Nuland and Under Secretary for Commerce Alan Estevez met in Washington on Tuesday.

The talks came just ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Washington when a number of high-technology partnerships, including a deal that will involve GE-414 jet engine sales to India, are on the cards.



Crucial meet: Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra with U.S. Under Secretary of State Victoria Nuland and Under Secretary for Commerce Alan Estevez. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Meanwhile, senior U.S. officials indicated a softer line on India-Russia ties and said Mr. Modi's visit would help build trust and confidence in the U.S.'s "most important bilateral relationship".

"IUSSTD focused on ways in which both governments can facilitate the development and trade of technologies in critical domains such as semiconductors, space, telecom, quantum, AI, defence, bio-tech and others," said a press release issued by the Indian Embassy on Wednesday. "Both sides reviewed the relevant bilateral export control regulations with the objective of building and diversifying resilient supply chains for these strategic technologies," it said.

Change in stance

Although the U.S. had issued a number of statements immediately after the Russian invasion of Ukraine calling for India to reduce its military ties with Russia, forgo Russian oil and vote alongside western countries at the UN, none of which New Delhi agreed to, it has in more recent months given up those demands. Ahead of his visit to Delhi next week, U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said the U.S. should be prepared to "meet" India and other countries not joining the sanctions, rather than "debate" them.

"The big thing the United States needs to do is not have a debate with each of these countries about Ukraine, but rather meet them where they are in terms of what they are trying to accomplish," said Mr. Sullivan referring to countries that have refused to join sanctions against Russia imposed by the U.S. and European Union over the war in Ukraine.

Mr. Sullivan said that India had not joined the sanctions but the U.S.-India partnership has "never been stronger" in terms of technology, defence cooperation and people-to-people ties.

Cong. wants FIR against PM, Minister for negligence

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Accusing the Narendra Modi government of dereliction of duty of Himalayan proportions in the Balasore train accident, the Congress on Wednesday said the CBI should lodge a first information report (FIR) against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw for negligence.

At a press conference here, Congress spokesperson Ajoy Kumar said Mr. Vaishnaw was "doing theatrics" after the accident and "should be given an Oscar award for it".

He said the budget for laying of new tracks and repairing the old ones had come down from ₹9,607 crores in 2018-19 to ₹7,417 crores in 2019-2020. He said in the past four years, there had been over 1,129 derailments and yet there was no accountability.

Referring to the Odisha accident, Mr. Kumar said, "It was sabotage done by the Rail Minister as part of a conspiracy with the Prime Minister for which an FIR should be registered against them."

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge wrote on Twitter: "The 288 families of the Odisha train tragedy will not get justice by hailing the Railway Minister. Justice will be served only when their accountability and responsibility is fixed." "The facts show that in the last 9 years, the Modi government has given up on the Ministry of Railways. And now the country is suffering because of it."

89 bodies from crash await identification at AIIMS, Bhubaneswar

Five cold storage containers sourced to supplement mortuary capacity; DNA samples taken to prevent bodies from being wrongly handed over

Maitri Porecha
BHUBANESWAR

Long wait: Family members during identification of deceased passengers at the AIIMS helpdesk in Bhubaneswar. PTI

In addition to the 123 bodies that the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhubaneswar had already received from the triple-train collision site in Balasore district in Odisha since June 2, 39 more were ferried in from private hospitals on Wednesday.

The AIIMS mortuaries have the capacity to store only 40 bodies at a time. With an overflowing load due to the tragic accident that left 288 dead, five cold storage shipping containers were sourced from the Paradip port on the east coastal district of Jagatsinghpur to accommodate the bodies, official sources from the AIIMS told *The Hindu*.

Each shipping container has the capacity to hold 20 bodies and is maintained at a temperature of minus-18 degrees Celsius. "These containers have the capacity to preserve bodies for up to six months," a senior AIIMS official said.

DNA sampling

The AIIMS officials say that the hospital has handed over 73 bodies to relatives, and is now left with 89 bodies which are being stored in the containers. The numbers quoted are constantly being updated, officials said. Due to difficulties faced by relatives in identifying bodies of their kin who may have died in the accident, the hospital is preserving DNA samples of all bodies, AIIMS Director Ashutosh Biswas told *The Hindu*.

"AIIMS did not have the capacity to initially store all bodies and hence they were kept in different facilities. When multiple claims started pouring in for bodies, it was decided to shift all bodies to AIIMS for better coordination," Dr. Biswas said.

By 6 p.m. on Wednesday, up to 49 blood relatives had submitted their blood samples in an effort to ascertain a DNA match so that they could be sure that the bodies they were claiming were of their own kin.

A senior railway official said that some bodies were mutilated beyond recognition and DNA sampling was the only way left.

For instance, 45-year-old Shibakanta Roy, a manual labourer from West Bengal, was searching for his 22-year-old son Bipul Roy's body and claimed that body no. 14 was that of his son.

He was told earlier at the Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) that another party had already claimed that body and taken it away.

Mr. Roy submitted his DNA sample at the AIIMS on Wednesday and was hoping that the KIMS and the AIIMS would coordinate to help him understand the status of his missing son.

On Wednesday, 33 of the 49 DNA samples were flown to the AIIMS in Delhi from Bhubaneswar.

"As the case is being handled by the Central Bureau of Investigation, it was deemed fit that DNA testing occurs in Delhi. The results are expected in seven to 10 days," Dr. Biswas said.

Priming for Assembly election, BJP keeps a close watch on Pilot's moves

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Sachin Pilot may be keeping his cards close to his chest, but the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has been deliberating on the various scenarios arising out of the developments in the Congress in Rajasthan.

According to senior sources in the party, Mr. Pilot's speculated exit from the Congress and the move to float a new outfit will not be an entirely happy development for the BJP, at least in the upcoming Assembly election in Rajasthan.

"The Gujjar vote in Rajasthan had traditionally been with the BJP. During the previous Assembly election, however, this moved *en bloc* to the Congress, since Sachin Pilot belongs to that community and as the State Congress president it was felt that he would be the choice for Chief Minister. In fact, it was a washout for the BJP in eastern Rajasthan, the big catchment area for the community's vote," a senior BJP leader said.

The BJP's major losses in that election were in eastern Rajasthan, where it lost all 26 seats, and the desert region.

Split of votes

If Mr. Pilot remains with the Congress, this vote, as per the BJP's calculations, will shift back to the BJP. "If he floats a new party, however, some of the vote may remain with him on a narrative of hurt feelings," the leader added. A triangular contest of this kind may not help the BJP, the party feels, as some of the anti-Gehlot vote may split.

Sachin Pilot

That Rajasthan is very much on the minds of the BJP was clear from the fact that former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje had a one-on-one meeting with party general secretary (organisation) B.L. Santhosh on Wednesday. BJP president J.P. Nadda, Union Minister Amit Shah and Mr. Santhosh had held a marathon meeting on the party's preparations for the upcoming Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chattisgarh and Telangana, and Ms. Raje's meeting with Mr. Santhosh is being seen in that context.

"There have been some policy announcements by the Ashok Gehlot government, some things that need to be sorted out organisationally. Basically, in Rajasthan, the State unit needs to fight unitedly and Vasundhara Raje is key to that," a senior source said.

Opposition meeting to be held in Patna on June 23

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rahul, Mamata, Stalin and Kejriwal among leaders scheduled to attend meeting

A meeting of Opposition parties will be held in Patna on June 23, Janata Dal (U) national president Rajiv Ranjan Singh said on Wednesday.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and former president Rahul Gandhi have confirmed their participation. Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar on Wednesday called Opposition leaders informing them of the decision.

"The Opposition meeting which was scheduled for June 12 will now take place on June 23 in Patna. All the Opposition leaders who are attending the meeting have given their consent to be a part of the meeting. The leaders who have given their consent include All Indian Congress Committee (AICC) president Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, former Chief Minister of Maharashtra Uddhav Thackeray, NCP chief Sharad Pawar, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, CPI general secretary D. Raja, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury and CPI(ML) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya," Mr. Singh said.

SP chief slams Ordinance on control of Delhi services

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday termed the Union government's Ordinance on the control of services in the national capital "anti-democratic", after meeting Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in Lucknow.

He assured Mr. Kejriwal that the SP would support the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in its struggle against the Ordinance.

Rear-view mirror helps avoid those trying to cause crash: Dhankhar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

> You have to look into the rear-view mirror to know those who aren't well disposed towards the nation
>
> **JAGDEEP DHANKHAR**
> VICE-PRESIDENT

One has to look in the rear-view mirror to avoid those determined to cause an accident, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Wednesday at an interaction with trainee officers of the Indian Defence Estate Services in Delhi.

The statements must be seen in the context of recent comments made by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in New York, where he accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of trying to drive the Indian car by only looking in the rear-view mirror and then not understanding why the car was crashing and not moving forward. "You have to look into the rear-view mirror to know those who aren't well disposed towards the nation, those who are out to taint, tarnish and destroy our institutions... you have to look into the rear-view mirror to avoid someone determined to cause an accident," Mr. Dhankhar said.

DELHI JAL BOARD (Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi)
OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER (C)-5 THROUGH EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C) DR-III
Kanhaiya Nagar Delhi-110035 Phone: 011-27394876 Email:eecdr3@gmail.com

"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

PRESS NIT NO-07 (2023-24) (Re-invited)

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV)/ Amount put to tender	Earnest Money (EMD) (Rs.)	Tender Processing Fee Non Refundable (Rs.)	Date of Release of Tender/ Tender Id.	Last date/time of receipt of tender
1.	Construction of 2 MGD SPS and allied works at Gandhi Vihar Resettlement Colony in Adarsh Nagar AC-4.	Rs. 1,48,14,184/- (Civil Work), **Percentage Rate** [(E&M Work)+2 years DLP)] **Item Rate**	12,04,775/-	1500/-	06.06.2023 / 2023_ DJB_24243_1	26.06.2023 upto 3.00 P.M

Further details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in.

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 58 (2023-24) EE(C) DR-III

Government of Odisha - "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Bid Identification No.C.C.E.K.C., Keonjhar No. 07 / 2023-24
e-mail : ccekeonjharpwdcircle@gmail.com / sekcpwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com
Letter No.2598, dt.29.05.2023

1. Name of the work :- Construction of Four Lane road with road side drain of Sundargarh-Lephripada road (MDR-27) (Sundargarh Town Portion) from 0/000 km to 0/628 km under State Plan for the year 2022-23
2. Estimated cost :- Rs.444.06 Lakhs
3. Class of Contractor :- "A" Class
4. Period of completion :- 06 (Six) Calendar Months
5. Date and Time of availability of Bid document in the portal :- From 11.30 Hours of 09.06.2023 to 16.00 Hours of 23.06.2023.
6. Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal :- 16.00 Hours of 23.06.2023
7. Date of opening of Bid from Portal :- 11.30 Hours on 26.06.2023
8. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid :- Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://tendersodisha.gov.in"
B-300: Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar.
OIPR-34033/11/0017/2324

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Material Management Department, Electric Loco shed, Erode 638002
E –Tender Notice for the supply of Stores 22/ELSD/ED/Purchase/Advt./08

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Asst. Materials Manager, Erode invites the Following e –tender has been published in IREPS website. Firms are requested to login to http://www.ireps.gov.in----Login----E Tender----- Goods & Services (New) and quote against the tender. Manual quotations will not be entertained.
Closing Time: 14:30 hours.
Tender No : 72235475
Description: Supply Installation & Commissioning of 80 Ton Capacity Hydraulic Bearing Extractor for Traction Motor Model No. HS 15250A & 6FRA 6068 as per ELS/ED Drg No. Sr.DEE/RS/ED/TM-27, Sheet 1,2 & 3. Note:- Item shall be supplied along with warranty of 30 Months from the date of supply.
Due date: 03-JUL-2023; 14:30
Attention: Micro Small Enterprises (MSEs). The benefits provided to MSEs under public procurement policy for goods and services are as details provided in the link http://www.ireps.gov.in ----IREPS Public document –Southern Railway.
Asst.Materials Manager/ELSD/Erode-638002
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailways

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(Construction Organization)
Ernakulam Junction
Tender Notice No.DCE-II-CN-ERS-OT-02-2023
Dated: 02.06.2023

For and on behalf of the President of India, The Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), II, Ernakulam Jn. invites e-tender for the following work:
Name of the work: Final Location Survey for new 3rd & 4th line between Shoranur Junction & Coimbatore Junction (99 Km) using Aerial LiDAR survey and developing detailed final alignment, conducting traffic study, preparation of detailed plans and estimate and submission of DPR etc.
Tender Value: Rs.176.14 lakhs
Completion Period: 10 months
Date of Opening: 26.06.2023 @ 15.00 hrs.
Complete details & tender document will be available at https://www.ireps.gov.in
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailways

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PHED JAIPUR REGION-II, Jaipur
Email:- aceregion2jpr.phed@rajasthan.gov.in, Phone No:- 0141-2702700
No:-ACE-II/Ar./2023-24/2396-472 Date: 29.05.23

निविदा संशोधन सूचना

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से कार्य "Operation and maintenance of RWSS Originating from Dudu Main Pump Houses Under Bisalpur- Dudu Water Supply Project of 105 villages Dudu district Jaipur for 5 Years on Private contract basis under jurisdiction District Rural Division III Dudu District Jaipur, Rajasthan" हेतु जनस्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेल्वे इत्यादि में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया द्वारा निविदाएं आमंत्रित की गयी थी। जिसमें निविदा की प्रमुख तिथियों एवं तकनीकी अर्हता में कुछ संशोधन जारी किया गया है। जिसकी विस्तृत निविदा संशोधन सूचना एवं निविदा प्रपत्र http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in एवं http://sppp.raj.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है । RO No. 6769 Dated 10.05.2023

क्र. सं.	एन.आई.बी.	यू.बी.एन. कोड	निविदा संख्या
1	PHE2324A0725	PHE2324WLOB01638	20/2023-24

अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, जल स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग
जयपुर क्षेत्र (द्वितीय) गांधी नगर जयपुर
DIPR/C/7974/23

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice for the Supply of Stores No E-11/2023

For and on behalf of the President of India, the following e-Tenders are published in IREPS website. Firms are requested to Login to **http://www.ireps.gov.in-login>E.Tender-goods& services** (new) and quote against these tenders. Manual quotations will not be entertained for these tenders. **Closing time for all tenders 14:30 hours**

Sl.No	Tender No	Description	Due Date
1.	26232285	F-1 SELECTER VALVE ASSEMBLY	12/06/2023
2.	11230636A	EMERGENCY BATTERY CHARGER	12/06/2023
3.	26232616	POH REPLACEMENT KIT	12/06/2023
4.	26232172	SET OF PRIMARY SPRINGS	13/06/2023
5.	15230143B	REMOVABLE CONNECTOR	13/06/2023
6.	68235551	TRACTION MOTOR SPEED SENSOR	14/06/2023
7.	68235927	OVERHAULING KIT	14/06/2023
8.	04230529	BATTERY BOX	15/06/2023
9.	44230274	YOKE PIN SUPPORT	15/06/2023
10.	04230456	TWO PIECE GLASS SHUTTER	15/06/2023
11.	26233562	CAPACITOR HARMONIC FILTER	15/06/2023
12.	82235218	SMPS BASED IPS	15/06/2023
13.	26232612	IOH KIT	16/06/2023
14.	21230834	HELICAL SPRING	16/06/2023
15.	04230186	HEX HEAD BOLT	16/06/2023
16.	26231123	AOH kit	16/06/2023
17.	11234228	BLIND SOCKET ASSEMBLY	19/06/2023
18.	68235925	OVERHAULING KIT	19/06/2023
19.	78227103B	HOOPER DOOR	19/06/2023
20.	67235084	SUPPLY AND ALLICATION OF SINGLE	19/06/2023
21.	04230921	KIT FOR BRAKE GEAR	20/06/2023
22.	04230926	BRAKE DISC	20/06/2023
23.	21230846	660mm LENGTH AIR BRAKE	20/06/2023
24.	68235827	TRACTION MOTOR SPEED SENSOR	20/06/2023
25.	06231002	DASH POT OIL	21/06/2023
26.	02235459	INSULIN LISPRO	22/06/2023
27.	04231009	PRIMARY BUMP STOP	22/06/2023
28.	82225548	QN1 RELAY 8f/8b	22/06/2023
29.	90226016A	UNINSULATED CADMIUM COPPER CATENARY WIRE	22/06/2023
30.	15230229A	SILICON IRON ROUND23/06/2023	
31.	44230194	CATRIDGE TAPER ROLLER BEARING	23/06/2023
32.	26230618	CONNECTING ROD	23/06/2023
33.	44230621	COMBINED SANDWICH PIECE	26/06/2023
34.	01230302	GENTIAN BLUE	26/06/2023
35.	03225154	GFN 66 INSULATING LINER	26/06/2023
36.	06231102	INHIBITED MINERAL INSULATING OIL	26/06/2023
37.	82225635A	48 OFC	26/06/2023
38.	68235923	RIVET LESS CAGE BEARING NH 320	26/06/2023
39.	52235501	BEARING CE	26/06/2023
40.	44230593	CONSTANT CONTACT POLYURETHANE	27/06/2023
41.	44230369	DISTRIBUTOR VALVE	27/06/2023
42.	04230910	INJECTION MOULDED POLYACETAL	27/06/2023
43.	68235924	RIVET LESS CAGE BEARING NU 330	27/06/2023
44.	03225146	MANUFACTURE AND SUPPLY OF ELASTIC RAIL	28/06/2023
45.	21230848	660mm LENGTH AIR BRAKE HOSE COUPLING	28/06/2023
46.	03225152	GFN 66 INSULATING LINERS	28/06/2023
47.	68236007	GAUGE COMPLEX	28/06/2023
48.	03225151	METAL LINER	30/06/2023
49.	04230130	EMERGENCY WINDOW ASSY	03/07/2023
50.	04230979	SUPPORTING DEVICE	04/07/2023

Principal Chief Materials Manager
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UTTARAKHAND CIVIL AVIATION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Doon Helidrome Dehradun, Sahastradhara Road, P.O Kulhan, Pincode 248013 Tel. 0135 2608981
Letter No. 8418/UCADA/2023 Date: 07 June, 2023
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR SELECTION OF HELICOPTER SERVICE FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS (KUMAOUN REGION) (RE-TENDER)

1. Date of downloading tender document at uktenders.gov.in 07/06/2023 Time 18:00 HRS
2. Date of Pre-bid meeting 12/06/2023 Time 11:30 HRS
3. Last date for submission of documents physically at UCADA 15/06/2023 Time 16:00 HRS
4. Last Date for submission of Tender 15/06/2023 Time 15:00 HRS
5. Date of opening of Technical Bid 15/06/2023 Time 16:00 HRS
6. Date of opening of financial bids: - Shall be intimated later by email to the technically qualified bidders.

For more details, please visit **uktenders.gov.in** / official website **www.ucada.in** /Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority, Doon Helidrome, Mussoorie by pass P.O- Kulhan, Dehradun, Uttarakhand 248013
CEO, UCADA

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
No. M-TRD-29-I-0T-2022-23-13R
M-TRD-29-I-0T-2023-24-14,15 Dt.05.06.2023

For and on behalf of the President of India, the Divisional Railway Manager/Traction Distribution Branch, Chennai Division, S. Railway, Chennai -3,invites online tender from the experienced Contractors for the following works for further details, please refer to **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sl.No.	Tender No. / Name of the work	Value (Rs.)	Closing Date & Time
1.	**Tender No. M-TRD-29-I-0T-2022-23-13R** "Comprehensive annual maintenance contract of SCADA system compete with software, RCC equipment and RTUs in MAS - GDR and VLCY-MSB-VM sections for a period of **three years**	96,46,615.08	26/06/2023 (15:00 hrs)
2.	**Tender No. M-TRD-29-I-0T-2023-24-14** Outsourcing of PSI maintenance activities of 25 kV traction system of 6 Nos of PSI depots for a period of **2 years**	2,34,88,201.00	03/07/2023 (15:00 hrs)
3.	**Tender No. M-TRD-29-I-0T-2023-24-15** outsourcing of Maintenance of OHE non-core activities of 8 Nos of OHE depots for a period of **2 years.**	1,58,53,944.00	03/07/2023 (15:00 hrs)

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KARNATAKA STATE MEDICAL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED
PHI Building, Opp. to SJP Polytechnic, K.R.Circle, Sheshadri Road, Bangalore-560001. Phone: +91-80-29619801
E-mail: md.ksmscl@gmail.com

No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RE-TND/NVBDCP/28/2023-24 Date: 07.06.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RE-TND/NVBDCP/28/2023-24, Dated: 07.06.2023 (IND-0012).
2. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RE-TND/HEMOPHILIA/29/2023-24, Dated: 07.06.2023 (IND-0013).
3. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RE-TND/KSAPS-BLOOD BAGS & KITS/31/2023-24, Dated: 07.06.2023 (IND-0014).

Nationwide Tender is invited through **e-Tendering system** under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tender:

1. Re-Tender for the supply of Drugs and Chemicals under NVBDCP Programme 2022-23 (IND0012).
2. Re-Tender for the supply of Factor-IX Recombinant under Hemophilia Programme 2022-23 (IND0013).
3. Re-Tender for the supply of Blood Bags and Kits under KSAPS Programme 2021-22 (IND0014).

Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from **07.06.2023**. The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under e-procurement platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.

Sd/-
Managing Director,
KSMSCL, Bangalore
DIPR/CP/AAA/208/2023-24

TAMIL NADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136, Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu
Ph : 04324-277001 (10 Lines)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due Date
232413 001685	Steaming (Non-Coking) Coal in Bulk (Imported) with 4200 GAR of Indonesian origin	22.06.2023
232423 000905	Bleached Chemi Thermo Mechanical Pulp-Softwood 70 for Unit - II	19.06.2023
232413 001660	Hot Melt Gum - 214 for Copier Reel Packing	21.06.2023
232413 001627	Erection and Commissioning of 16/20 MVA power transformer and supply, erection & commissioning of 110 KV switchyard accessories for TNPL Unit-I	30.06.2023
E-mail	232413001685 - **purchase.fuel@tnpl.co.in** 232423000905 - **purchase.pulp@tnpl.co.in** 232413001660 - **purchase.packing@tnpl.co.in** 232413001627 - **pmd1@tnpl.co.in**	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only.
Detailed Terms & Conditions are available in tender document at our
Websites : www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
DIPR/ 2848 /TENDER/2023 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly paper*
" சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம் "

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत बून्दी
क्रमांक : केशियर / 456 दिनांक : 30.05.2023

निविदा सूचना संख्या 06/2023-24
NIB code PWD2324A0692

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से **संविधान की धारा 275 (1) मद (माड़ा योजना) अन्तर्गत विभिन्न सड़क निर्माण कार्य** के लिये उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार / केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त पात्र श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष से पाँच वर्ष की गारण्टी अवधि सहित निम्न कार्यों की निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाईट www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in", http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in तथा http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर करवाना आवश्यक है। निविदा अपलोड करने की तारीख 07.06.2023 से 26.06.2023 को सायं 6:00 बजे तक।

UBN is: PWD2324WSOB03128
UBN is: PWD2324WSOB03129
UBN is: PWD2324WSOB03130

(घी. के. जैन) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. वृत बून्दी
DIPR/C/7833/23

INBRIEF

Congress slams lathi charge on farmers at Kurukshetra

The Congress on Wednesday slammed the Manohar Lal Khattar government in Haryana for lathi-charging farmers who were protesting against their produce of sunflower seeds not being procured at the minimum support price (MSP). On Tuesday, protesting farmers blocked a highway at Kurukshetra in Haryana for over six hours. The police used water cannon and resorted to a lathi charge to disperse the agitators. Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said the BJP's "anti-farmer attitude" was coming to the fore again and again.

NIA questions key J&K religious scholar Rahmatullah

Jammu and Kashmir's top religious scholar Maulana Rahmatullah Mir Qasmi was summoned by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in an alleged illegal funding case on Wednesday in Srinagar. Official sources said the vocal preacher, who heads one of the biggest seminaries of the Valley, Darul Uloom Rahimya, in Bandipora, was called to the NIA office in Srinagar and "questioned". Official sources said the questioning was part of the crackdown on the groups operating in Kashmir and raising funds illegally "for unlawful activities and radicalisation of the youth". Mr. Rahmatullah is an influential preacher and has been vocal on many issues.

Kaziranga mahouts arrested for consuming rare turtles

Three persons engaged as mahouts in the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve have been arrested for capturing and consuming a rare species of freshwater turtle inside the habitat. Officials said there have been complaints about some employees under the Burapahar Range of the Centurion National Park consuming protected species. A search led them to three mahouts. "We found seven spotted pond turtles in the possession of Karna Bawri, Ram Naik, and Sobhan Bawri. The turtles were seized and the three detained under relevant sections of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972," an official said. They denied having traded any of these reptiles.

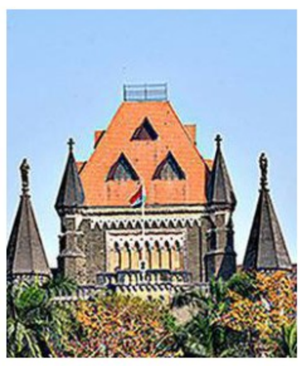
Rajasthan HC rejects DNA paternity test in divorce case

In a landmark judgment, the Rajasthan High Court has refused to allow the DNA paternity test as a ground to prove adultery in the divorce proceedings of a couple belonging to Bhilwara. The court said the child born to the couple could not be used as a pawn in the divorce litigation and the "sanctity of childhood" could not be compromised with. It gave the verdict on a writ petition moved by Deepak Soni seeking quashing of a 2022 order of the Family Court in Udaipur, which had rejected his plea to amend his divorce pleading on the basis of paternity test of his son. The divorce application filed under Section 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act had raised cruelty, and not adultery, as the ground for seeking divorce.

Won't notify fact-checking unit till July 10: Centre to HC

Bombay HC is hearing a petition challenging the constitutional validity of the new IT Rules, which require social media intermediaries to remove fake content on government flagged by the unit

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI



> We shall take up the petitions for final disposal from July 6 onwards. The Additional Solicitor-General says that the statement made earlier by the Centre shall stand extended till July 10
>
> **BOMBAY HIGH COURT**

The Union government on Wednesday told the Bombay High Court that it would not notify the fact-checking unit (FCU) to be constituted under the new Information Technology (IT) Rules for identifying fake news against the government on social media until July 10.

A Division Bench of Justices Gautam Patel and Neela Gokhale was hearing a petition filed by political satirist Kunal Kamra challenging the constitutional validity of the IT (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules, 2023.

The new Rules require social media intermediaries to censor or otherwise modify content that relates to the Union government, if a government-mandated FCU directs them to do so.

'Arbitrary rules'

On April 21, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology had said that it would not notify the FCU till July 5; this has now been extended to July 10.

Two new petitions have also been filed by the Editors Guild of India and the Association of Indian Magazines, challenging the constitutional validity of the new Rules and calling them "arbitrary".

The High Court on Wednesday said, "We shall take up the petitions for final disposal from July 6 onwards. The petitioners' counsel shall complete their arguments on July 7 after which we shall set a date for the Union government to put forth their arguments. In view of the dates fixed for hearing, the Additional Solicitor-General Anil Singh says that the statement made earlier by the Centre shall stand extended till July 10."

The affidavit filed by the Centre on June 6 reads, "In case, where Fact Check Unit of Central government intimates the intermediary that any information displayed on its platform is based on patently false and misleading facts, any person aggrieved by the availability of such information would be entitled to pursue any legal remedy, the court shall be the final arbiter of the factual correctness of the information."

Mazagon Dock and German firm strike deal on submarines

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The public sector defence shipyard Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. (MDL) and the German original equipment manufacturer Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) on Wednesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for partnering in submarine production in the presence of German Minister of Defence Boris Pistorius in Mumbai.

They will now jointly bid for the Navy's Project-75I to build six advanced submarines in India estimated to cost over ₹45,000 crore.

"According to the MoU, TKMS would contribute to the engineering and design of the submarines as well as the consultancy support to this joint project and MDL would take responsibility for constructing and delivering the respective submarines," a release from TKMS said. The construction of the submarines would take place in India and is expected to have significant local content, it stated.

The P-75I is being executed under the Strategic Partnership model of Defence Acquisition Procedure and the Request For Proposal (RFP) was originally issued in July 2021 to the MDL and Larsen & Toubro with 12 weeks' time to respond and has since seen several extensions, the latest deadline being August.

Mr. Pistorius held talks with his Indian counterpart, Rajnath Singh, on Tuesday during which progress of the deal was discussed.

He said it could become a "flagship project".

Former Doordarshan news anchor Gitanjali Aiyar passes away

Anuj Kumar
NEW DELHI

Gitanjali Aiyar

One of the finest news anchors that the country has seen, Gitanjali Aiyar, passed away in Delhi on Wednesday. The 71-year-old had been ill for some time.

One of the prominent faces of Doordarshan's prime-time news for decades, Gitanjali, like many of her contemporaries on the public broadcaster, brought grace and dignity to television news. She read the news and read it well. Fluent and articulate, she belonged to an era when teachers asked students to listen to Gitanjali, Neethi Ravindran, and Rini Simon to improve their English and when anchors maintained a neutral tone.

Those were the days when teleprompters had not made their way into news studios and when they did, they would often develop a snag in the middle of the live broadcast. Unhassled, Gitanjali was known not just for her immaculate accent but also for her calm and poise.

Starting her career with All India Radio, Gitanjali joined Doordarshan in 1971 and was honoured as the best anchor four times during her career with the channel. She also bagged the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award for Outstanding Women in 1989.

Gitanjali excelled in elocution events as a student and walked into the news business as soon as she graduated from Kolkata's Loreto College.

She was cast in *Khandaan*, the popular Doordarshan teleserial that became quite a rage in the mid-1980s.

Such was her popularity at her peak that the news presenter was featured in commercials for Solidaire television and Marmite. The punch line of the Solidare advertisement, 'that seldom fails', went well with Gitanjali.

After leaving Doordarshan, she dabbled in corporate communications.

Air India sends ferry flight to Russia for 216 passengers stranded after engine snag

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Air India sent a ferry flight on Wednesday to fly 216 passengers to San Francisco from Magadan in Russia, where they have been stranded after their snag-hit aircraft was diverted to the airport in the remote town on Tuesday.

Air India's flight AI 195 took off from Mumbai at 1 p.m. local time, and will reach Magadan in Russia at 6 a.m. local time on June 8.

Air India said in a statement that it had also dispatched one of its teams to provide support to the affected passengers and crew.

Russian authorities issued a permit to Air India for the arrival of a reserve aircraft at Magadan.

The passengers were accommodated in a makeshift accommodation after AI 173 flying from Delhi to San Francisco was diverted to Magadan following a technical problem with its right engine. There were 16 crew members aboard the flight.

Ground support

"Given the infrastructural limitations around the remote airport, we can confirm that all passengers were eventually moved to a makeshift accommodation after making sincere attempt to accommodate passengers in hotels locally. As we don't have any Air India staff based in the remote town of Magadan or in Russia, all ground support being provided is the best possible in this unusual circumstance through our round-the-clock liaison with the Consulate General of India in Vladivostok, Ministry of External Affairs (Government of India), local ground handlers, and the Russian authorities," the airline said in a statement.

Major hold-up: Air India flight passengers in a makeshift accommodation at a school in Magadan, Russia. PTI

The airline also launched a dedicated helpline (+91 124 264 142) for those seeking latest information on the stranded passengers.

With Russia banning several foreign carriers from using its airspace following Western sanctions over the war with Ukraine, Air India is the only airline that provides direct connectivity to San Francisco from New Delhi.

Airlines such as United had to curtail their operations as flights to some destinations require a costlier detour.

Groups write to Murmu on tensions in Uttarakhand

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Amid communal tensions flaring up in Uttarakhand, a group of over 200 social justice organisations and NGOs on Wednesday wrote to President Droupadi Murmu, condemning the role of the government in the "hate-filled" campaign under way in the State and seeking immediate action to protect lives and properties.

Uttarakhand has been seeing communal tensions for the past few weeks, as the State government has continued its drive to evict encroachers, which activists have said disproportionately affects Muslim neighbourhoods. The alleged abduction of a minor girl in Purola has also led to rising tensions.

With residents, trade union members and local businessmen gathered at several places in Uttarkashi to stage protests on Wednesday, the Uttarakhand Police were on their toes to maintain the law and order situation.

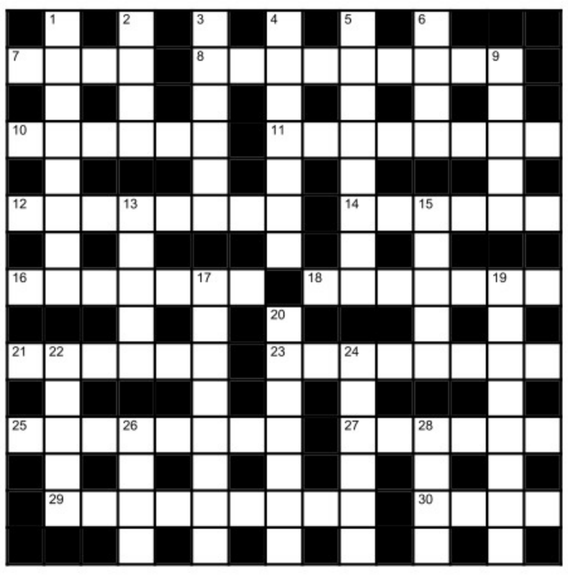
In the letter, the group asked the President to direct the government to follow the rule of law and take action against hate speeches and campaigns.

TH CROSSWORD + 13886

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

7 After tea, model makes small talk (4)
8 Behind open air swimming pool, actor creates anaesthetic (9)
10 One man has red and silver on coat of arms (6)
11 Initially, pharmacist with lower back pain produces graphite (8)
12 After releasing ballistic missiles initially, bombsights adjusted for cannon balls? (3,5)
14 State: "Sappers present near harbour" (6)
16 Foolish setter is surrounded by wild insane characters (7)
18 A droid has no right to consume English tonsil (7)
21 Press release is about jail (6)
23 Murder one with police department inside residence (8)
25 Around 1, wrongly restock more stout (8)
27 Disclose about bovine meat (6)
29 On the face of it, one alone consumes eleven exotic mangoes for starters (9)
30 Wise American's joint (4)

Down

1 Girl and her relatives start to supply small cucumbers (8)
2 King leaving island for a bit of tourism gets eye problem (4)
3 Drunk's British game (6)
4 Excitedly aids Poe to make fat (7)
5 Got a quantity of paper stuffed in air-conditioning duct in the beginning (8)
6 I am lodged in pound's branch (4)
9 Rice Burroughs is found in terraced garden (5)
13 South Indian guitarist starts strumming at first and gives voice to lyrics (5)
15 Democrats disappear in pandemics displaying uncontrollable fear (5)
17 Flexible? Change ironing date (3-5)
19 Idiotic mania following extraordinary din in ship visiting Bombay, for example, in olden days (8)
20 See 26
22 Tax animal having large spines at the back (5)
24 Reversing vehicle on Yankee Romeo, a person dying for his principles (6)
26/20 Make small talk and get rash (4,3,4)
28 Entry permit exists in Virginia (4)

SUDOKU

7	5		6				4	
		9			3			6
			4			2		3
			2	8			6	
6								5
	3			1	6			
8		6			2			
5			3			8		
	9				8		7	2

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

No.SS5823 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	2	7	4	3	1	9	5	6
1	6	9	2	5	8	3	4	7
3	4	5	7	9	6	8	1	2
2	8	4	1	6	9	5	7	3
9	5	3	8	4	7	6	2	1
6	7	1	3	2	5	4	9	8
5	3	2	6	1	4	7	8	9
4	1	8	9	7	3	2	6	5
7	9	6	5	8	2	1	3	4

FAITH

Sumitra is calm, composed

When Sumantra tells Dasaratha and Kausalya that Rama has entered the forest with Sita and Lakshmana, the king and his chief queen are devastated. Kausalya speaks harshly to Dasaratha, wondering how he could have been so cruel as to banish his own son to the forest, said Navalpakkam Vasudevachariar in a discourse.

How would Sita, who was accustomed to eating rich food survive on what was available in the forest? She wonders if Rama will get what is rightfully His, even after He returns from exile. Who but Kaikeyi and Bharata can be happy with the present state of affairs, she wonders. Sumitra is also present, but is calm and composed.

After all, her son Lakshmana too is no longer in the kingdom. In his case, he had not even been banished, but he had voluntarily chosen to accompany Rama to forest. Yet, Sumitra does not give way to emotions. Even when it had first been made known that Rama would have to go to the forest, it was Sumitra who had consoled Kausalya. Lakshmana, who was kind hearted, was with Rama. He would serve Rama to the best of his ability. His role is to serve Rama, and when Rama has to go to the forest, it is only natural that the one who is born to serve Him must also go to forest. Lakshmana and Rama's paduka can be said to be two characters in the Ramayana who had undertaken unusual vratas. Lakshmana never slept while in exile. His vrata was that of sleeplessness. Sandals are usually worn when a person is on the move. So sandals are hardly stationary. But Rama's padukas remained on the throne of Ayodhya for 14 years, thus going against the very nature of footwear.

WASHINGTON

U.K. PM in Washington to meet Biden and talk tech, Ukraine

AP

U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has flown to Washington on Tuesday lobbying Britain to take a lead in regulating AI and to meet U.S. President Joe Biden for a White House summit pledging support for Ukraine. En route to Washington, he announced a cumulative U.S. investment $17 billion into Britain. AFP

JEDDAH

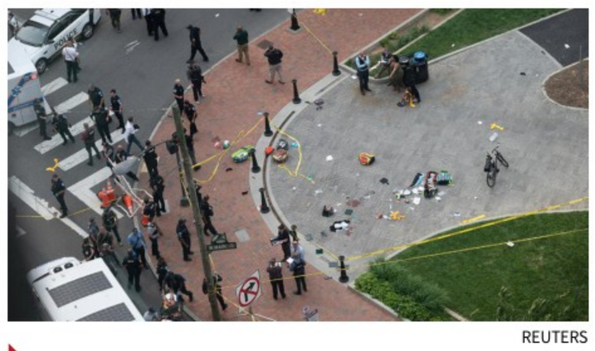
U.S. Secretary begins Saudi Arabia visit by meeting the Crown Prince

REUTERS

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken began his Saudi Arabia visit on Wednesday, by meeting the Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and committing to advance stability, security and prosperity across the West Asia, while deepening cooperation, especially in clean energy technology fields. ANI

RICHMOND

2 dead, 5 injured in firing at U.S. high school graduation ceremony



REUTERS

Two people were killed and five injured in a firing outside a downtown theatre in Richmond, Virginia in U.S. on Tuesday, where a high school graduation ceremony had just ended. Richmond Police chief said that a 19-year-old suspect who tried to escape has been arrested and will be charged with second-degree murder. AP

KUWAIT CITY

Kuwait votes in Opposition-led Parliament, elects one woman

AFP

Opposition lawmakers have won a majority in Kuwait's Parliament with only one woman elected, after the results of the Gulf state's seventh general election came out on Wednesday. Speaking on Tuesday, Janan Bushehri, the Parliament's sole female member, said she expected to "move ahead on outstanding issues". AFP

Thousands flee homes after destruction of Ukraine dam

The UN nuclear watchdog says the breach poses 'no short-term risk' to the Russian-occupied Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant; Vladimir Putin, in his first public reaction, calls it a 'barbaric act'

Agence France-Presse
KHERSON

Thousands were fleeing their homes on Wednesday after the destruction of a frontline Russian-held dam in Ukraine flooded dozens of villages and parts of a nearby city, sparking fears of a humanitarian disaster.

Downstream from the breached Kakhovka dam, Ukrainian police and troops in the southern city of Kherson were bringing people out from inundated areas in inflatable boats, most clutching only a few documents and pets.

Despite the evacuations, officials said Russian forces have kept shelling the residential neighbourhoods.

Ukraine and Russia have traded blame for the dam being ripped open early Tuesday, prompting Turkey's President Tayyip Erdogan to propose to both nations' leaders an international probe of the breach.

Brink of disaster: Flooded streets in Kherson on Wednesday after the walls of the Kakhovka dam collapsed. AP

The destruction has also raised fears of an environmental disaster and nuclear safety risks as it provides cooling water for Europe's largest Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant.

The water was waist-deep in central streets of Kherson and ground floors of buildings were submerged.

A spokesperson for Ukraine's emergency services, Oleksandr Khorunzhyi, said that "currently there is no information about the dead or injured".

While finger-pointing continued over the dam's destruction, Moscow accused Kyiv of blowing up a key pipeline that Russia used before the war to export ammonia and whose re-activation it has requested as part of grain deal talks.

The governor of the Kherson region, Oleksandr Prokudin, said 1,700 people had been evacuated so far and reported that ongoing shelling was endangering rescuers and locals.

'Barbaric act'

Meanwhile, President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday called the attack on the Russian-occupied Kakhovka dam, which Moscow has blamed on Ukraine, a "barbaric act", in his first public reaction to the situation.

China expressed "serious concern" over the dam destruction, while EU chief Charles Michel called it a "war crime" and NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg condemned it as "outrageous".

Russia has said the dam was partially destroyed by "multiple strikes" from Ukrainian forces and urged the world to condemn Kyiv's "criminal acts".

The UN nuclear watchdog agency said the dam break was posing "no short-term risk" to the plant.

NATO to put up biggest air deployment exercise

Associated Press
BERLIN

Germany is preparing to host the biggest air deployment exercise in NATO's history, a show of force intended to impress allies and potential adversaries, German and American officials said on Wednesday.

The Air Defender 23 exercise starting on June 12 till June 23 will see 10,000 participants and 250 aircraft from 25 nations respond to a simulated attack on a NATO member country. The U.S. alone is sending 2,000 U.S. Air National Guard personnel and about 100 aircraft to take part in the drill. Authorities have said the drill will cause some disruption to civilian flights in Europe during the period.

Sri Lanka police arrest Tamil legislator Ponnambalam

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

The Sri Lankan police arrested Tamil legislator and Tamil National People's Front Leader Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam at his Colombo residence early on Wednesday, on charges of "obstructing police duties", hours before the Jaffna MP was scheduled to raise a breach of privilege matter in Parliament. He was later released on bail.

The development comes days after two men dressed in plain clothes turned up at a meeting of Mr. Ponnambalam and members of a local sports club in Jaffna, in Sri Lanka's Tamil-majority Northern Province, and reportedly assaulted him.

In a video statement released following the June 2 incident, the Jaffna legislator, who is the son of the late Tamil politician and lawyer Kumar Ponnambalam, said the men identified as CID officials, but refused to show their identity cards when asked. Mr. Ponnambalam further said one of the men "assaulted" him when challenged, while another was seen "pointing a gun" at him. "If this is how a Member of Parliament is treated, then everyone can imagine how the general Tamil population in the north-east are treated... The police in the north and east continue to act as an occupational, hostile force," he said.

Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam

Ahead of Wednesday's arrest, the police asked Mr. Ponnambalam to produce himself to the Maruthenkerni police in Jaffna to record a statement and obtained a magistrate court order banning the legislator from travel abroad until then. However, the Tamil MP had sought time from the parliamentary Speaker to raise the breach of privilege issue in the House on Wednesday.

Fellow Jaffna parliamentarian from the Tamil National Alliance M.A. Sumanthiran said in a tweet: "Police insisting that @GGPonnambalam should go to #Maruthankerni today itself is totally #illegal."

Imran Khan accused of 'abetting' murder

Reuters
QUETTA

Govt. spokesperson says Khan could face charges if murder case goes to trial

Pakistani police on Wednesday formally named former Prime Minister Imran Khan in connection with the murder by unknown gunmen of Abdur Razaq, a lawyer seeking sedition proceedings against him.

The police registered an "abetment to murder" case against Mr. Khan, 70, who faces dozens of charges since his ouster in a parliamentary vote of confidence in April last year.

Mr. Khan, who has not been charged in connection with the lawyer's murder, has dismissed all the cases against him as concocted by his opponents.

In an online broadcast, Mr. Khan denied the allegations, adding that he would appear in court on Thursday to seek bail in 16 other cases. Provincial government spokesperson Babar Khan said Mr. Khan could face formal charges if and when the murder case goes to trial.

Pence opens poll bid with Trump critique

Associated Press
ANKENY

Former Vice-President of the United States Mike Pence opened his presidential bid with an unusually forceful critique of former President Donald Trump over January 6 and his temperament on Wednesday as he became the first Vice-President in modern history to challenge his former running mate.

Mr. Pence, according to excerpts released by his campaign, will tell an audience in the Des Moines suburbs that Mr. Trump betrayed his voters' trust after the 2020 election when he tried to convince his supporters that Mr. Pence had the power to keep them in office.

"The American people deserve to know that President Trump demanded I choose between him and our Constitution. Now voters will be faced with the same choice," Mr. Pence will say.

"Anyone who puts themselves over the Constitution should never be President, and anyone who asks someone else to put them over the Constitution should never be President again."

Pak. economy to grow by 2%: World Bank

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

The World Bank has projected Pakistan's economy to grow by 2% in the next fiscal year, much lower than the 3.5% target set by the country's top economic body, saying the effects of the August 2022 floods, policy uncertainty and limited foreign exchange resources have depressed activity. The conflicting estimates by the World Bank and the National Economic Council came on Tuesday, reported the *Dawn* newspaper.

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रुप / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 - 2564568 / 5669 / 4545)

ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए संक्षिप्त सूचना / BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग द्वारा ऑनलाइन मद-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। On behalf of the President of India, online item-rate tenders are invited through E-tendering for the following work.

1. टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी की पाइरो युक्ति समुच्चयन सुविधा के लिए विद्युत कार्य / Electrical works for Pyro Devices Assembly Facility at TERLS, VSSC. / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/07/2023-24 Dt. 06.06.2023 (पी.ए.सी. / P.A.C : ₹ 232.63 लाख / Lakhs)**
2. वीएसएससी, तुंबा में टर्ल्स कैंटीन का विस्तार (सिविल तथा पीएच कार्य) / Extension of TERLS Canteen at VSSC, Thumba (Civil & PH works) / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/09/2023-24 Dt. 06.06.2023 (पी.ए.सी. / P.A.C : ₹ 267.28 लाख / Lakhs)**

डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/Period for downloading: दिनांक 08.06.2023, 10:00 बजे/hrs से/to दिनांक 20.06.2023, 23:00 बजे/hrs

ई-निविदा की अवधि बढ़ाना / EXTENSION OF E-TENDER :

1. एएसओई सुविधाएं, एसपीएआरसी, टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी के लिए प्रस्तावित डीजी सेट के संबंध में विद्युत कार्य। / Electrical works in connection with proposed DG set for ASOE Facilities, SPARC, TERLS, VSSC. / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/18/2022-23 Dt. 31.03.2023**
2. टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी में एएसओई भंडारण सुविधा (एसपीएआरसी) के लिए विद्युत कार्य। / Electrical works for ASOE Storage Facility (SPARC) at TERLS, VSSC / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/03/2023-24 Dated 19.05.2023**
3. आरएफएफ, वीएसएससी में नए क्रय भवन के लिए विद्युत कार्य। / Electrical works for new purchase bldg. at RFF, VSSC / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/04/2023-24 Dated 19.05.2023**
4. टर्ल्स वीएसएससी के प्रोटो फैब्रिकेशन शॉप, एएसओई (एसपीएआरसी) के लिए विद्युत कार्य। / Electrical Works for Proto Fabrication Shop, ASOE (SPARC) at TERLS, VSSC / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/05/2023-24 Dated 19.05.2023**
5. टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी की एलबीएस उत्पादन सुविधा (एसपीएआरसी) के लिए विद्युत कार्य। / Electrical Works for LBS Production Facility (SPARC) at TERLS, VSSC / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/06/2023-24 Dated 19.05.2023**
6. आरएफएफ, वीएसएससी, तुंबा में अग्निशमनप्रणाली का संवर्धन (सिविलकार्य)। / Augmentation of fire protection system at RFF, VSSC, Thumba (Civil works) / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/07/2023-24 Dated 18.05.2023**

डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/Period for downloading	दिनांक 13.06.2023 को 23:00 बजे तक बढ़ाए गए/Extended upto 23:00 hrs on 13.06.2023
निविदाओं की प्राप्ति / Receipt of tenders	दिनांक 16.06.2023 को 23:00 बजे तक बढ़ाए गए/Extended upto 23:00 hrs. on 16.06.2023

योग्यता मानदंड तथा अन्य ब्यौरों को पाने के लिए इच्छुक निविदाकार ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए विस्तृत सूचना (ई-एनआइटी) का अवलोकन करें, जिसे www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। / Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (E-NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in.

Sd/- ग्रुप निदेशक / Group Director, सीएमजी, वीएसएससी / CMG, VSSC

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Stressed Assets Management Branch, Bengaluru

Authorised Officer's Details:
Name: **Sri. G.V.Ramakrishna**
E-mail Id: sbi.04209@sbi.co.in
Mobile No: 9704666922
Land Line No. (Office): 080-25943489

Address of the Branch:
2nd Floor, Office Complex Building, SBI LHO Campus,
No. 65, St. Mark's Road, Bengaluru -560 001
Telephone: 080 -25943470 to 3490,
Fax No: 080-22225203, E-mail Id: sbi.04209@sbi.co.in

APPENDIX- II-A
[See proviso to rule 8(6)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets Under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Read With Proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgager that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of State Bank of India, Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As Is Where Is", "As Is What Is" and "Whatever There Is"** basis on **12.07.2023** for recovery of **Rs.22,49,05,269/- (Rupees Twenty Two Crore Forty Nine Lakh Five Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Nine Only)** as on 21.05.2023 and further interest from 22.05.2023 with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc., due to the State Bank of India, Secured Creditor from the Borrower **M/s. Friendly Motors India Pvt. Ltd.,** and the Guarantors **1.Yashodhar Nayak S/o Ganappa Nayak, 2. Jyothsna Nayak D/o Yashodhar Nayak, 3.Shubha Nayak W/o Yashodhar Nayak, 4.Raghu Chaitanya Nayak S/o Yashodhar Nayak,**
The Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit and Bid Increment Amount will be as under:

Property No.	Tender No., Name of the Title Deed Holder and Property Details	Reserve Price (below which the property will not be sold)	Earnest Money Deposit	Bid increment amount
1	**Tender No: SBIN/400065441733** **Name of the Title Deed Holder: Sri. Yashodhar Ganapa Naik** All that piece & parcel of the property bearing Survey No. 52/3A1, situated at Kasarkod Village, Honnavar Taluk, Uttara Kannada District, the property measuring 1.10 acre and is bounded on: East by National Highway West by Sea/Government Land North by V.B.Shanbhag's Land South by Raghavendra Prabhu's Land	**Rs.3,00,00,000/-**	**Rs.30,00,000/-**	**Rs.1,00,000/-**
2	Tender No: SBIN/400007047406 **Name of the Title Deed Holder: Sri. Raghu Chaitanya Nayak** All that piece & parcel of Immovable Property bearing 23 Site No's: 91, 93, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 117, 140, 141, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 154 and 155 formed in Sy Nos.340/1, 340/2 and 343/1, 2,3,4,5 Situated at Srirangapatna Village, KasabaHobli, Mandya District-571438 totally measuring 2625.80 sq mtrs.	**Rs.5,46,70,920/-**	**Rs.54,67,092/-**	**Rs.1,00,000/-**

Note: The above entire property of 23 sites will be auctioned as a single lot first and if it is not sold as a single lot then all the individual sites will be sold separately mentioned PROPERTY No.2A inbelow:

Description of Property No.2A sites are individual auction:

Sl No	Tender No's & auction time:12:00pm to 05:00 pm	Site no & measurements formed in Sy Nos. 340/1, 340/2 and 343/1, 2,3,4,5 Situated at Srirangapatna Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mandya District	Boundaries				Reserve Price (Lakhs)	EMD in (Lakhs)	Increment in Lakhs
			East	West	North	South			
1.	SBIN/400007047406-01	Site No.91, 108 Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.74	Road	Site No.92	Site No.90	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
2.	SBIN/400007047406-02	Site No.93, 108 Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.72	Road	Site No.94	Site No.92	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
3.	SBIN/400007047406-03	Site No.107, 108 Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.106	Site No.108	Site No.104	Road	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
4.	SBIN/400007047406-04	Site No.108, 108 Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.107	Site No.109	Site No.103	Road	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
5.	SBIN/400007047406-05	Site No.109, 108 Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.108	Site No.110	Site No.102	Road	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
6.	SBIN/400007047406-06	Site No.110, 108 Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.109	Site No.111	Site No.101	Road	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
7.	SBIN/400007047406-07	Site No.111, 108 Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.110	Site No.112	Site No.100	Road	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
8.	SBIN/400007047406-08	Site No.112, 108 Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.111	Site No.113	Site No.99	Road	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
9.	SBIN/400007047406-09	Site No.113, 108 Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.112	Site No.114	Site No.98	Road	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
10.	SBIN/400007047406-10	Site No.114, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.113	Site No.115	Site No.97	Road	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
11.	SBIN/400007047406-11	Site No.117, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.13	Road	Site No.116	Site No.118	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
12.	SBIN/400007047406-12	Site No.140, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.145	Road	Site No.139	Site No.141	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
13.	SBIN/400007047406-13	Site No.141, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Site No.144	Road	Site No.140	Site No.142	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
14.	SBIN/400007047406-14	Site No.145, 108Sqmt or1162.08Sqft	Road	Site No.140	Site No.146	Site No.144	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
15.	SBIN/400007047406-15	Site No.146, 108Sqmt or1162.08Sqft	Road	Site No.139	Site No.147	Site No.145	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
16.	SBIN/400007047406-16	Site No.147, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Road	Site No.138	Site No.148	Site No.146	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
17.	SBIN/400007047406-17	Site No.148, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Road	Site No.137	Site No.149	Site No.147	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
18.	SBIN/400007047406-18	Site No.149, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Road	Site No.136	Site No.150	Site No.148	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
19.	SBIN/400007047406-19	Site No.150, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Road	Site No.135	Site No.151	Site No.149	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
20.	SBIN/400007047406-20	Site No.151, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Road	Site No.134	Site No.152	Site No.150	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
21.	SBIN/400007047406-21	Site No.152, 108Sqmt or 1162.08Sqft	Road	Site No.133	Site No.153	Site No.151	22.50Lakhs	2.25Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
22.	SBIN/400007047406-22	Site No.154, 162.64Sqmt or 1750Sqft	Garden	Road	Road	Garden	33.90Lakhs	3.50Lakhs	0.25Lakhs
23.	SBIN/400007047406-23	Site No.155, 195.16.Sqmt or 2099.92Sqft	Garden	Road	Garden	Road	40.65Lakhs	5.00Lakhs	0.25Lakhs

The sale shall be subject to provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
For further details regarding inspection of the property the intending bidder may contact the Authorised Officer, **State Bank of India,** Stressed Assets Management Branch, 2nd Floor, Office Complex Building, SBI LHO Campus, No. 65, St. Mark's Road, Bengaluru -560 001, **Telephone: 080-25943470 to 3490** or Bank's approved Resolution Agent, M/s. Ram Agency., Bangalore Representative: Sri. Ramkumar, Cell No.98450-45747.
To the best of knowledge of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on any of the above said properties. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp.

Date:31.05.2023
Place: Bengaluru

Authorized Officer,
State Bank of India,
SAMB, Bengaluru.

INBRIEF

Maruti introduces off-roader Jimny starting at ₹12.74 lakh

Maruti Suzuki India has announced the introduction of off-roader Jimny at a starting price of ₹12.74 lakh. The Jimny will be available for deliveries beginning Wednesday at all NEXA showrooms in the country. The company said Jimny (5-door) will be available in Zeta and Alpha variants with automatic and manual transmission options. MD & CEO Hisashi Takeuchi said the Jimny has been breaking stereotypes for more than five decades since its global debut in 1970.

Renault rolls out Kiger, Triber with enhanced safety features

Renault India announced the commencement of deliveries for BS-6 phase-2 compliant Kiger and Triber AMT cars with enhanced safety features at ₹8.47 lakh and ₹8.12 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi), respectively. Renault India's product line-up comprises innovative safety features such as electronic stability program for enhanced control on curvy roads, hill start assist, traction control system, and tyre pressure monitoring system to provide real-time alerts for punctured tyres.

Va Tech Wabag bags ₹420-cr. order from Maharashtra

Va Tech Wabag (Wabag) has secured a ₹420-crore order from the City and Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra (CIDCO) towards design, build and operation of a water treatment plant (WTP) with a capacity of 270 million litres per day at Jite, Raigad district of Maharashtra. The project has been planned to cater to the future water demands of Navi Mumbai, the Chennai-based water technology company said in a statement.

'Crop shortages could exacerbate inflation following MSP increases'

Spillover effects on food prices from higher assured remuneration to farmers to hinge on foodgrain procurement strategy as well as prevailing market prices, say economists; inflation in rice, other coarse cereals cited as already running 'high'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Inflation risk

Economists say Centre's procurement strategy and market prices hold key to any spillover effects on food prices from higher MSP

- Inflationary impact of 5-11% increase in MSP for farm produce to be added factor in MPC's rate decision
- The 7% increase in paddy MSP could lead to higher prices if output does not exceed last year's, says BoB's Sabnavis
- SBI economists see inflationary impact from higher MSPs as 'negligible'

The inflationary impact of the 5%-11% increase in the minimum support price (MSP) for farm produce will be an additional factor for the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to consider at its bimonthly policy review to be announced on Thursday.

The spillover effects on consumer food prices from higher assured remuneration to farmers would hinge on the government's procurement strategy and prevailing market prices, but any output shortages could lead to higher prices, economists cautioned.

The 7% increase in paddy MSP could lead to higher prices if the crop did not exceed last year's output, said Bank of Baroda chief economist Madan Sabnavis, who termed the hikes 'quite aggressive' relative to past increases.

Inflation in rice

"Procurement takes place for rice, whose inflation is already high at 11%," noted Mr. Sabnavis. "So an increase of 7% will add to benchmark prices... Similarly, jowar, bajra and maize are all running inflation of 13-15% and hence, also run a risk of higher prices in case of crop failure," Mr. Sabnavis added.

" The crux will hence be the size of the crops this season," he said, stressing that food prices were the major risk to inflation so the Reserve Bank of India would be cautious until there was more clarity on kharif crop prospects.

State Bank of India economists said that the inflationary impact of higher MSPs "will be negligible" depending on the prices prevailing in the e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) as well as procurement levels.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	63,143	0.56
US Dollar	82.52	0.09
Gold	60,800	0.04
Brent oil	77.55	1.53

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2439.55	5.90
Adani Ports	743.75	-1.65
Apollo Hosp	5026.45	86.35
Asian Paints	3224.80	12.05
Axis Bank	976.75	8.55
Bajaj Auto	4780.75	54.50
Bajaj Finserv	1480.90	5.80
Bajaj Finance	7079.95	-34.00
Bharti Airtel	844.25	14.80
BPCL	368.10	11.95
Britannia Ind	4893.15	187.75
Cipla	960.45	-11.60
Coal India	230.70	2.90
Divis Lab	3542.10	4.20
Dr Reddys Lab	4673.75	37.10
Eicher Motors	3727.40	22.30
Grasim Ind	1769.05	2.65
HCL Tech	1129.05	0.45
HDFC	2648.55	13.20
HDFC Bank	1607.70	8.30
HDFC Life	594.45	14.75
Hero MotoCorp	2958.00	53.20
Hindalco	422.60	7.05
Hind Unilever	2716.20	25.05
ICICI Bank	940.20	-1.90
IndusInd Bank	1311.20	5.20
Infosys	1288.95	9.95
ITC	443.95	1.15
JSW Steel	729.75	16.90
Kotak Bank	1939.40	-19.65
L&T	2315.50	37.55
M&M	1406.40	-4.80
Maruti Suzuki	9707.50	-28.70
NestleIndia	22367.75	662.35
NTPC	177.35	1.95
ONGC	153.85	0.20
PowerGrid Corp	239.20	3.90
Reliance Ind	2498.15	18.80
SBI Life	1245.80	22.80
State Bank	589.20	3.85
Sun Pharma	1014.60	0.80
TataConsumerProduct	823.10	31.00
Tata Motors	567.95	12.20
Tata Steel	111.50	2.50
TCS	3274.90	42.60
Tech Mahindra	1095.70	9.45
Titan	2906.95	25.50
UltraTech Cement	8157.60	48.05
UPL	693.95	-0.05
Wipro	402.80	2.85

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 07

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.35	82.67
Euro	88.23	88.58
British Pound	102.53	102.94
Japanese Yen (100)	59.08	59.31
Chinese Yuan	11.58	11.62
Swiss Franc	90.91	91.28
Singapore Dollar	61.17	61.41
Canadian Dollar	61.53	61.77
Malaysian Ringitt	17.90	17.99
Australian Dollar	55.20	55.41

Source:Indian Bank

'About 80% opt to deposit ₹2,000 notes in accounts'

Reuters
MUMBAI

About three-fourths of Indians are choosing to deposit the withdrawn ₹2,000 notes into bank accounts so far rather than exchanging them for smaller denominations, with the trend likely to boost bank deposits, bankers said.

SBI received about ₹170 billion in value terms in the first week since the exercise began on May 23, an official said. Of this, ₹140 billion, or 82%, was deposited into accounts, with the balance exchanged.

Govt. right in stepping in to curb fare surge: Akasa's Dube

Jagriti Chandra
ISTANBUL

Vinay Dube

The government is right in intervening in the issue of price gouging by airlines, said Akasa Air co-founder Vinay Dube, days after a government advisory to airlines in the aftermath of the train crash in Odisha.

"The Civil Aviation Ministry has an excellent point in terms of gouging. They want to make sure that there is no gouging going on [for travel] in pockets like Bhubaneswar. I fully support it," he told *The Hindu* on the sidelines of IATA's World Air Transport Summit in Istanbul.

"[They are saying] don't take advantage as people have to fly... don't take advantage that you have a monopoly on a particular route," Mr. Dube said.

On Monday, the Ministry of Civil Aviation told airlines to 'self-monitor' airfares during a calamity and on select routes that had witnessed surge pricing in the wake of Go First's suspension of flights.

However, the average fares offered by Indian airlines were among the most competitive, the Akasa Air CEO asserted.

"The airfares on an average in India, which are equivalent to $45 or $50, are the most customer friendly in the world in any kind of sizeable aviation economy," Mr. Dube said.

"The Indian consumer on an average has one of the best airfare regimes you can find anywhere in the world," he added.

(*The writer was in Istanbul at IATA's invitation*)

Govt. to spend ₹2,980 cr. on coal, lignite exploration

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on Wednesday approved the continuation of a central-sector scheme for "Exploration of Coal and Lignite" with an estimated outlay of ₹2,980 crore from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

The geological reports generated under the scheme are used for auctioning new coal blocks.

About 1,300 sq. km will be covered under the regional-exploration component of the scheme.

China's exports tumble as global demand falters

Reuters
BEIJING

China's exports shrank much faster than expected in May while imports extended declines with a grim outlook for global demand, especially from developed markets, raising doubts about the fragile economic recovery.

The world's second-largest economy grew faster than expected in the first quarter thanks to robust services consumption and a backlog of orders following years of COVID disruptions, but factory output has slowed as rising interest rates and inflation squeeze demand in the United States and Europe.

Exports slid 7.5% YoY in May, data from China's Customs Bureau showed, much larger than the forecast 0.4% fall and the biggest drop since January. Imports shrank 4.5%, slower than an expected 8% decline and April's 7.9% fall.

Bank of Maharashtra raises ₹1,000 crore via QIP

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) said it had raised ₹1,000 crore (base issue of ₹500 crore and a green shoe option of ₹500 crore) through qualified institutional placement (QIP).

The board of the public sector lender had approved issue of equity shares to qualified institutional investors at ₹28.50 per equity share (with share premium of ₹18.50 per equity share).

Vloggers rising as new client segment: Nikon

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Sajjan Kumar

Digital content creators and vloggers, who create and run blogs consisting mostly of videos, have emerged as the new customer segment for the imaging technology solutions industry during and after the pandemic, said Sajjan Kumar, MD, Nikon India Private Ltd., a 100% subsidiary of Tokyo-based Nikon Corporation.

"We are seeing a new market segment in India and globally evolving, especially after the pandemic, with more and more people pursuing hobbies around photography and videography," Mr. Kumar told *The Hindu*. India's imaging solution market, pegged at ₹3,100 crore and led by firms such as Nikon, has been growing at 12-15% a year. In FY23, Nikon's revenue grew 17% from FY22 to ₹900 crore.

Transindia to divest units to Blackstone for ₹400 crore

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Transindia Real Estate Ltd. said it plans to divest certain undertakings and subsidiaries to global investment firm Blackstone for about ₹400 crore to augment capital and enhance financial strength.

The divestment includes the sale of a logistics park in Jhajjar, Haryana for an enterprise value of about ₹625 crore and a 10% stake held in other logistics' assets.

TCS to focus now on AI transition: Chairman

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

N. Chandrasekaran

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) was investing significantly in building AI capabilities including AI-powered products and platforms given that advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI) had made AI transition a central focus, said Chairman N. Chandrasekaran.

"There is a transition already underway from predictive to generative AI," he said in a statement published in the company's latest annual report.

"Businesses are still adopting predictive AI and are on the journey of capturing data, harnessing the power of cloud and IoT.

"Leveraging generative AI would further require technology innovation and investments," he said, adding that TCS would invest in research areas important for the future.

Sport

Hardik, the *shishya*, touted to be the successor

IPL

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

> I have always tried to contribute in a leadership role since the first season, with my performance, inputs, and looking after the team
> HARDIK

He may have missed out on becoming only the third captain, after M.S. Dhoni and Rohit Sharma, to lift the IPL trophy for two years in a row. Still, IPL 2023 will be remembered as much for Hardik Pandya's astute captaincy and sparkling success as for CSK's title win.

The 2023 season also justified Hardik's image as a master strategist who could end India's wait for a second T20 World Cup crown next year.

Very few supported the idea when Gujarat Titans announced Hardik as its captain in its inaugural season in 2022, despite him proving to be India's best pace-bowling all-rounder and best finisher in T20Is. But Hardik was confident about his leadership abilities.

"Gradually, through my career, I realised my hidden skill of being a leader. I have always tried to contribute in a leadership role since the first season, with my performance, inputs, and looking after the team," Hardik told *Sportstar*. "Now, at Gujarat Titans, I have a clean slate to work with, with an inspired team, support staff, and management to build a team and take it to different heights. It has certainly catalysed my evolution as an individual and allowed me to encourage and nurture youngsters."

Hardik had seen plenty of ups and downs including a severe back injury in 2018, a loss of form during the 2021 T20 World Cup, as well as an off-the-field controversy. Inspite of all that, perhaps it's his trait of staying in the present that has led to him being equated with Dhoni in terms of his leadership abilities.

Hardik may not have been able to secure an encore this time, but he will have many more opportunities to add to his trophy cabinet. After all, the *shishya* is being touted as the successor!

Grooming the young: Hardik, seen with Gill, reckons looking after the team as an important leadership trait. AFP

Gukesh survives to steal extra half-point off leader Caruana

CHESS

Sports Bureau

Maintaining his irrepressible form in Armageddon, D. Gukesh escaped with an extra half-a-point off leader Fabiano Caruana in the seventh round of the 11th Norway Chess at Stavanger, Norway, on Tuesday.

With two rounds remaining, Caruana (14.5 points) went into the final rest day two points ahead of his nearest challenger Hikaru Nakamura.

In spite of prevailing in four out of five Armageddon games so far, Gukesh (10) slipped a rung to the joint fourth spot after Wesley So (10.5) collected three points for beating Uzbek teenager Nodirbek Abdusattorov in their classical game. Gukesh found himself in the company of Anish Giri, the conqueror of local hope Aryan Tari.

After a well-contested 52-move draw in the classical contest, Gukesh was extremely lucky to escape with a draw, worth an extra half-a-point for playing with black pieces. Caruana's menacing kingside offensive left Gukesh finding the best defensive resources. Eventually, the youngster managed to foil Caruana's bid to win before time ran out for the leader.

Magnus Carlsen missed an opportunity to beat Alireza Firouzja in the classical game before winning in Armageddon. Hikaru Nakamura was the first to win in Armageddon after facing Shakhriyar Mamedyarov.

When the action resumes after a day of rest, Gukesh plays white against Tari. The other eighth-round pairings are: Caruana-So; Abdusattorov-Nakamura; Mamedyarov-Carlsen; Firouzja-Giri.

The results:
Seventh round: Fabiano Caruana (USA) drew with D. Gukesh; Hikaru Nakamura (USA) drew with Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Aze); Magnus Carlsen (Nor) drew with Alireza Firouzja (Fra.
Wesley So (USA, 10.5) bt Nordirbek Abdusattorov (Uzb, 6); Anish Giri (Ned, 10) bt Aryan Tari (Nor, 3); Armageddon.
Caruana (14.5) lost to Gukesh (10); Carlsen (9) bt Firouzja (9.5); Nakamura (12.5) bt Mamedyarov (9).

HEAD START

Travis etches his name in the record books with a hundred

Travis Head became the first batter to score a century in the World Test Championship Final. His innings against India on the opening day of the match made its way not only into The Oval ground's honours board but also into the pages of history. The previous highest in a WTC Final was Devon Conway's 54 versus India in 2021.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

India, Australia pay their respects to victims of the Odisha train tragedy

The Indian and Australian cricket teams observed a minute's silence and wore black armbands in memory of the victims of the tragic train accident in Odisha last week, on the opening day of the World Test Championship final as a noble gesture. Even the Australian team sported black armbands in this hour of grief.

DOUBLE CELEBRATION

Captains Rohit and Cummins play in their 50th Test match

The WTC Final marked the 50th Test for both captains, Rohit Sharma and Pat Cummins. The Indian skipper has a total of 3379 runs under his hood while Cummins has picked up 217 wickets in Tests. Rohit has scored 650 runs in 11 Tests against the Aussies while Cummins has taken 46 wickets in 12 games against India.

VIRAT'S WORD

Steve Smith is the best Test player of this generation: Kohli

India batter Virat Kohli praised Australian star Steve Smith, naming him the 'best Test player' of this generation. "In 85-90 Tests, he (Smith) has an average of 60 which is quite unbelievable. The consistency and impact with which he scores runs, I haven't seen anyone else doing that in last 10 years," said Kohli.

Head and Smith run India ragged with huge stand

The two add 251 runs for the unbroken fourth wicket as the former's unbeaten 146 and the latter's 95 not out take the Aussies to 327 for three; selection gaffe to the fore as Ashwin misses out

WTC FINAL

Ashwin Achal
LONDON

Not for the first time on a big occasion, India erred with its team composition to let the advantage slip. On a day when the sun shone bright for the most part, India left out ace spinner R. Ashwin. The off-spinner watched from the sidelines even as The Oval pitch provided a tempting mix of uneven bounce.

A tenacious Australian batting line-up made the most of the miss, moving to a comfortable 327 for three at the end of the first day of the ICC World Test Championship final here on Wednesday.

Deflating the pressure

Ashwin's absence hit home when Umesh Yadav, his replacement in the eleven, was handled with ease. Umesh, who came into the attack at first change, deflated the pressure built until this point, conceding four boundaries in his second over. For Umesh, who delivered 14 unimpressive overs without taking a wicket, it was a forgettable day.

Ashwin, the top-ranked Test bowler in the world, has made a habit of working batters out. While success is not guaranteed, Ashwin would have at least posed some tough questions to the batters.

The off-spinner's impressive record against left-handers – Australia has no less than four southpaws in its line-up – adds more weight to his case.

The selection gaffe was reminiscent of the events that unfolded in the 2021 WTC final against New Zealand. Despite having the chance to change the eleven after the first day's play was washed out at Southampton, India stuck to fielding two spinners. New Zealand, taking cognisance of the obvious seamer-friendly conditions, played five pacers. It came as no surprise when the Kiwis romped home by eight wickets.

At The Oval, Travis Head made the Indians pay. Given the license to go for his shots, he raced to 146 n.o. (156b, 22x4, 1x6). The left-hander timed the ball exceptionally well, cutting and driving with authority. Once he settled down, Head used the upper cut to pepper the third-man region.

Head reached his century off 106 deliveries, with a hook off Mohammed Shami. In the nineties, the 29-year-old was severely tested by a barrage of bouncers from Mohammed Siraj and Shami, but survived.

Head thrived in the company of Steve Smith, who continued his dream run at this venue. Smith (95 n.o., 227b, 14x4) moved to within striking distance of recording his third century in four outings here. Smith and Head dominated the final session, scoring boundaries at will to run the Indians ragged, adding 251 runs for the unbroken fourth wicket.

In the morning session, Siraj nicked off Usman Khawaja (0) to give India a good start. Siraj's new-ball partner Shami was a tad short with his length, allowing David Warner to sit on the backfoot.

Warner, who has struggled for runs, worked his way into form with a 60-ball 43. He fell against the run of play, gloving a long hop from Shardul Thakur to wicketkeeper K.S. Bharat down the leg-side.

Immediate success

Shami corrected his length after lunch, and gained immediate success. Marnus Labuschagne (26, 62b, 3x4) played all over a full floater which dipped in and took out the stumps. It was a shocker from Labuschagne, who left a massive, fatal gap between bat and pad.

Australia will be mighty pleased to emerge from a tricky situation unscathed. For India, there could be more long days in store.

Piling it on: Despite making early inroads, Head's counter-attack and Smith's solidity meant India had a forgettable opening day. GETTY IMAGES & REUTERS

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA
David Warner c Bharat b Shardul 43 *(60b, 8x4)*, Usman Khawaja c Bharat b Siraj 0 *(10b)*, Marnus Labuschagne b Shami 26 *(62b, 3x4)*, Steve Smith (batting) 95 *(227b, 14x4)*, Travis Head (batting) 146 *(156b, 22x4, 1x6)*; Extras (b-1, lb-5, nb-5, w-6): 17; Total (for three wkts. in 85 overs): 327.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-2 (Khawaja, 3.4 overs), 2-71 (Warner, 21.4), 3-76 (Labuschagne, 24.1).

INDIA BOWLING
Shami 20-3-77-1, Siraj 19-4-67-1, Umesh 14-4-54-0, Shardul 18-2-75-1, Jadeja 14-0-48-0.

Toss: India.

'Dropping Ashwin a difficult decision'

Ashwin Achal
LONDON

India's bowling coach Paras Mhambrey stated that the team management decided to drop off-spinner R. Ashwin based on the conditions seen on the morning of the match.

"You can always say in hindsight that playing an additional spinner would have been helpful, but looking at the conditions in the morning, I thought that having an additional seamer will be beneficial. It's always a difficult decision to drop a champion bowler like Ashwin. There is no doubt that he is a world-class bowler," Mhambrey said. The bowlers should have been more disciplined, he added.

Australian batter Travis Head, who scored his first Test century outside his home nation, explained that he enjoyed batting with Steve Smith.

"Steve is one of the best players in the world, and he is our best batter. I've always said that batting with him feels like you are in the shadow. You can sneak under the radar and go about your business because of the attention he draws from the opposition," Head said.

Haddad Maia stuns Jabeur, sets up a semifinal clash with defending champion Swiatek

FRENCH OPEN

Associated Press
PARIS

Top-ranked Iga Swiatek kept her French Open title defence on track with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Coco Gauff to reach the semifinals on Wednesday.

In a rematch of last year's final, Swiatek recorded another straight-set victory over the American and will next face Beatriz Haddad Maia as she chases her third trophy at the clay-court major.

The 19-year-old Gauff fell to 0-7 against Swiatek, and the Floridian has yet to take a set against her. Swiatek, a 22-year-old Pole, won 6-1, 6-3 in last year's final.

Earlier on Court Philippe Chatrier, Haddad Maia scored another comeback win, upsetting Ons Jabeur 3-6, 7-6(5), 6-1 to become the first Brazilian woman since 1968 to reach a Grand Slam semifinal.

The 14th-seeded Haddad Maia, who served a 10-month suspension for failing a doping test in 2019, shook off a slow start against the seventh-seeded Jabeur.

After playing nearly four hours to beat Sara Sorribes Tormo in the fourth round, Haddad Maia won only one of her service games in the first set. But she saved the only two break points she faced in the second set – both in the 11th game to go up 6-5 – and won the tiebreaker.

The 27-year-old Brazilian started the deciding set with a double break and a 3-0 lead. A frustrated Jabeur flipped her racket in the air after sending an easy backhand wide on a break-point opportunity while down 4-1. Haddad Maia won the game and served out the match, putting her hand on her cap almost in disbelief after Jabeur sailed a forehand long on the second match point.

She is the first Brazilian woman to reach the semifinals at Roland Garros in the Open era. Maria Bueno reached the last four at the 1966 French Open and made the 1968 U.S. Open semifinals.

The day in numbers

1 Beatriz Haddad Maia is the first-ever Brazilian woman to reach the semifinals at French Open in the Open era

4 Carlos Alcaraz (20 years 23 days) is the fourth youngest men's singles semifinalist at Roland-Garros in the last 30 years after Rafael Nadal, Andrei Medvedev and Novak Djokovic

12 Iga Swiatek has won 12 matches in a row at Roland-Garros. In terms of age, she is older only than Monica Seles, Steffi Graf and Chris Evert in achieving this feat

3/5 Swiatek has reached her third semifinal in five appearances at Roland-Garros. Only Chris Evert (5/5) and Monica Seles (4/5) have made more in the Open era

THURSDAY'S PICKS
WOMEN'S SEMIFINALS
- Sabalenka vs Muchova
- Haddad Maia vs Swiatek

COMPILED BY NIHIT SACHDEVA

Marching on: Swiatek was in cruise mode against Gauff. AFP

QUARTERFINAL RESULTS

Women: 1-Swiatek (Pol) bt 6-Gauff (USA) 6-4, 6-2; 14-Haddad Maia (Bra) bt 7-Jabeur (Tun) 3-6, 7-6(5), 6-1.
Men: 1-Alcaraz (Esp) bt 5-Tsitsipas (Gre) 6-2, 6-1, 7-6(5); 3-Djokovic (Srb) bt 11-Khachanov 4-6, 7-6(0), 6-2, 6-4.

Messi all set to move to Inter Miami from PSG

Reuters
LOS ANGELES

Global football icon Lionel Messi is planning to sign with Inter Miami CF, multiple outlets reported on Wednesday.

The Argentinian star has reportedly opted to join the MLS ranks over returning to Barcelona or accepting a lucrative offer to play in Saudi Arabia.

Financial problems at Barcelona reportedly quashed Messi's desire to reunite with the Spanish club, where he gained fame from 2004-21.

The 35-year-old officially becomes a free agent when his contract at France's PSG expires at the end of this month.

Messi owns property in Miami and has said many times over the past year that he would like to play in the United States. He could make his debut for Miami in July or August, according to reports.

Saudi Arabia offered a reported $400 million a year to play at Al-Hilal, which would have allowed him to renew a rivalry with Cristiano Ronaldo although in a vastly diminished spotlight from the European football scene.

The terms of the agreement with Inter Miami are unclear, although Messi would almost certainly raise the bar for the highest salary in MLS history currently held by Toronto FC's Lorenzo Insigne ($14 million).

Inter Miami also could offer him a minority stake in the club, which is owned by billionaire businessman Jorge Mas and his brother, Jose, and retired football great David Beckham.

As for the MLS, Messi's arrival would mark the league's biggest splash since Beckham's signing for the LA Galaxy in 2007.

MLS commissioner Don Garber said in March that bringing Messi to the United States would be a boon for the league.

"You're dealing with perhaps the most special player in the history of the game," Garber said.

USA beckons: Messi is expected to fly across the Atlantic to play in the MLS. FILE PHOTO

INBRIEF

Patriots vs Ironmen in Premier Handball League opener

Rajasthan Patriots is all set to take on Maharashtra Ironmen in the inaugural match of the Premier Handball League which begins in Jaipur on Thursday. Telugu Talons and Garvit Gujarat will figure in the day's second match. The league will run from June 8 to 25 and all matches will be held in Jaipur. The winner of the inaugural season will be richer by ₹11 lakh while the runner-up will take home ₹5 lakh.

Early exit for Indian doubles teams in Singapore Open

The Indian doubles teams came a cropper at the Singapore Open Super 750 tournament on Wednesday. While the fifth-seeded men's pairing of Satwiksairraj Ranki Reddy and Chirag Shetty lost to Japan's Akira Koga and Taichi Saito 18-21, 21-14, 18-21, Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly went down 14-21, 21-18, 19-21 against Chinese Taipei's Yeung Nga Ting and Yeung Pui Lam in women's doubles.

Shillong, Kokrajhar new venues for Durand Cup

Meghalaya's capital Shillong and Assam's Kokrajhar will be the new venues for the 132nd Durand Cup football tournament, to be held from August 3 to September 3. The latest edition will see the participation of Shillong Lajong FC. Matches will also be played in Kolkata and Guwahati.

Bellingham to join Real from Dortmund for over €100m

English teenager Jude Bellingham will move from Borussia Dortmund to Real Madrid for a fee in excess of €100 million, the German side announced on Wednesday. Dortmund confirmed the two teams had reached a "mutual agreement" over the transfer of the 2022-23 Bundesliga's player of the season in the summer.

Domingo Oramas named Gokulam's new coach

Domingo Oramas is the new coach for Gokulam Kerala. He has replaced fellow-Spaniard Francesc Bonet, who had come in midway through last season in place of Richard Towa of Cameron. Oramas has worked in Spain and Equador before. "I am thrilled to be a part of Gokulam Kerala FC, a club with a rich history and a strong desire to win," he said. "We can achieve great things together. Our aim is to win promotion to the Indian Super League. My experience in coaching top-tier players and my commitment to implementing a winning methodology will contribute to the team's success on the field," he said.

Di Maria quits Juventus after just one season

Argentina winger Angel Di Maria has quit Juventus after one season, becoming a free agent amid claims he could be targeted by a club in Saudi Arabia. The 35-year-old World Cup winner touched down in Turin after seven seasons for Paris Saint-Germain, going on to score eight goals in 40 games for Juve in a trophy-less season.

LIVE TELECAST

BWF: Singapore Open, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8.30 a.m.

Roland Garros: Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 2.30 p.m. onwards

WTC (final): Australia vs India, Day 2, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3 p.m.

Premier Handball League: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7 p.m. onwards

FIH Pro League: Argentina vs India, Star Sports First, SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8.30 p.m.

Laxita runs to glory in the 1500m with a personal best

Women's 4x400m relay team lands gold; men's mile relay team wins silver with new junior National record; India finishes third overall in the medals table behind Japan and China

Winning efforts: Laxita, the women's 1500m champ, and women's 4x400m relay team, proudly display their medals. AFI

ASIAN U-20 ATHLETICS

Sports Bureau

Junior international Laxita Vinod Sandila clocked a personal-best 4:24.23s as she won the women's 1500m gold at the 20th Asian under-20 athletics championships at Yecheon on Wednesday.

India won another gold with its women's 4x400m relay team pulling off a comfortable win in 3:40.50s.

Later, the Indian men's mile relay team won the silver clocking 3:08.79s and in the process broke the seven-year-old under-20 national record. Shivaji Parashu brought another silver, in the men's 5000m.

India, with six gold, seven silver and six bronze medals, finished third overall in the medal table behind Japan and China.

Select results (gold medallists and Indian performances in finals): Men: 1500m: 1. Maseda Jumpei (Jpn) 3:50.15s, 3. Mehdi Hasan (Ind) 3:56.02. **5000m:** 1. Nagashima Sonata (Jpn) 14:23.91s, 2. Shivaji Parashu (Ind) 14:49.06. **4x400m relay:** 1. Thailand (3:08.34s), 2. India (Deepak Singh, Sharan Megavarnam, Rihan Choudhary, Navpreet Singh) 3:08.79s new National record; OR 3:08.89, 2016. **Long jump:** 1. Shu Heng (Chn) 8.03m, 4. Rajat (Ind) 7.26. **High jump:** 1. Lo Tzu Chieh (Tpe) 2.20m, 6. Ankit Mane (Ind) 2.03. **Women: 1500m:** 1. Laxita Vinod Sandila (Ind) 4:24.23s. **4x400m relay:** 1. India (Anushka Dattatray, Riya Patil, Kanista Teena, Rezoana Mallick) 3:40.50s. **Medal table (gold, silver, bronze and total):** 1. Japan (14-4-5 = 23), 2. China (11-5-3 = 19), 3. India (6-7-6 = 19).

Rohit Rajpal retained India captain

DAVIS CUP

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rohit Rajpal. R.V. MOORTHY

The All India Tennis Association (AITA) has retained Rohit Rajpal as the captain of the Indian Davis Cup team till 2024.

"We are delighted to extend Rohit Rapal's tenure as the captain of our Davis Cup team. His leadership qualities, vast knowledge of the game, and ability to bring out the best in our players make him an invaluable asset. We have full faith in his capabilities and believe that he will continue to steer the team towards greater success in the upcoming ties", said Anil Dhupar, the secretary general of AITA, in a release issued here on Wednesday.

India is scheduled to play Morocco in the Davis Cup World Group-2 tie at home in September.

Rohit was drafted as captain of the team in 2019, when Mahesh Bhupathi announced that the team would not travel to Pakistan. Eventually, the tie against Pakistan was played in Kazakhstan.

Rohit has continued to be the captain of the team thereafter for the ties against Croatia, Finland, Denmark and Norway. The only victory for India was a 4-0 verdict against Denmark on the grass courts of the Delhi Gymkhana Club in March last year.

The team lost the away tie to Denmark 2-3 in February this year, and thus got relegated to World Group-2.

Openers and Chameera help Sri Lanka seal series win

CRICKET

Agence France-Presse
HAMBANTOTA

Wrecker-in-chief: Sri Lankan pacer Chameera celebrates the dismissal of Gurbaz. AFP

Easy half-centuries from Sri Lanka openers Dimuth Karunaratne and Pathum Nissanka made short work of Afghanistan on Wednesday in a nine-wicket drubbing that clinched a 2-1 ODI series win for the hosts.

Sri Lanka strode to 120 with 34 overs to spare in Hambantota, striding past the 117 set by the tourists after a fast-bowling attack led by Dushmantha Chameera that demolished the hapless Afghan top order.

Nissanka did not waste time when the chase began, racing to his seventh ODI half-century in 32 balls with eight fours and two sixes.

He left on 51 after being trapped leg- before wicket by Gulbadin Naib to end an 84-run stand for the opening wicket.

Karunaratne made 56 not out to ensure that Sri Lanka reached the target without another wicket falling.

Chameera earned Man-of-the-Match honours with his four for 63. Wanindu Hasaranga polished off the Afghan tail with three for seven.

The scores: Afghanistan 116 in 22.2 overs (Mohammad Nabi 23, Ibrahim Zadran 22, Dushmantha Chameera 4/63, Wanindu Hasaranga 3/7) lost to Sri Lanka 120/1 in 16 overs (Dimuth Karunaratne 56 n.o., Pathum Nissanka 51). **Toss**: Afghanistan.

Sameer, Mahesh claim silver and bronze in rapid fire pistol

JUNIOR WORLD CUP

Sports Bureau

Sameer Ghulia missed the gold by one point to Yan Chesnel of France in the Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany, on Wednesday.

The 16-year-old Sameer, who had won the Junior World Championship silver in Cairo last year, led by two points before the last series of five shots. While the French boy rose to the occasion and had five hits, Sameer could manage only two which resulted in him being pushed to the silver by one point.

Mahesh Anandakumar claimed bronze in a final that three Indians.

Second in team event

In the team event, Sameer along with Rajkanwar Sandhu and Jatin won silver, six points behind Korea.

Top three: Sameer, left, and Mahesh with the winner Yan. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India continued to stay on top of the medals table with six gold, six silver and three bronze medals. Korea was second with five gold, three silver and a bronze.

In the 50-metre rifle 3-position event for junior women, Nupur Kumrawat shot 583 and was unlucky to miss a final berth, as she had 27x and fell short by one inner-10.

The results:

25m rapid fire pistol: Junior men: 1. Yan Chesnel (Fra) 27 (576); 2. Sameer Ghulia 26 (577); 3. Mahesh Anandakumar 19 (575); 6. Rajkanwar Sandhu 9 (577); 8. Abhinav Choudhary 571; 13. Jatin 568.

Team: 1. Korea 1728; 2. India (Rajkanwar Sandhu, Sameer Ghulia, Jatin) 1722; 3. France 1712.

Clinical West Indies secures ODI series against UAE

Opening salvo: Johnson Charles' 63 set the tone as West Indies set a stiff total. AFP

Agence France-Presse
SHARJAH

The West Indies produced a fine team display to secure a series victory over the United Arab Emirates with a 78-run win in the second One-Day International on Tuesday.

Openers Brandon King and Johnson Charles both plundered half-centuries as the tourists made 306 all out batting first.

The bowlers then shared the wickets around as the UAE slipped to 95 for five before eventually finishing on 228 for seven in its 50 overs.

Charles got the Windies off to a flying start with a 47-ball 63, while King followed up his hundred in Sunday's first ODI with 64.

Odean Smith clobbered 37 off 24 balls to drag the Caribbean side past 300 before they were bowled out with one ball remaining.

Teenager Ali Naseer again shone for the UAE, hitting 57 from 53 deliveries to back up his fifty on ODI debut at the weekend.

The scores:
West Indies 306 in 49.5 overs (Brandon King 64, Johnson Charles 63, Zahoor Khan 3/44) beat UAE 228/7 in 50 overs (Ali Naseer 57, Basil Hameed 49). **Toss**: West Indies.

Indian girls need a draw against Chinese Taipei to make the semifinals

JUNIOR ASIA CUP

Press Trust of India
KAKAMIGAHARA

Unbeaten India will look to seal a semifinal berth when it faces Chinese Taipei in its final pool match of the Women's Junior Asia Cup hockey tournament here on Thursday.

India blanked Uzbekistan 22-0 and then registered a 2-1 win over Malaysia so far. In its last match, India came from two goals down to salvage a point with a fighting 2-2 draw against Korea as the team has two wins and a draw.

India is currently on top of Pool A with seven points and a draw against Chinese Taipei will be enough to seal a last-four berth.

Mumtaz Khan and Deepika have been brilliant, scoring goals at will while Deepika Soreng has found the nest in every single game of the tournament.

But going into the final stages of the tournament, India cannot afford to slip a bit in the title pursuit.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Abu's knock highlights Engrades CC's victory

Abu's unbeaten 91 helped Engrades CC defeat Bangalore Sports Club by four wickets in the KSCA (Group I) third division league.

The scores: Whirlwind Cricketers 215/9 in 50 overs (Aniridha A. Joshi 54, Shreyank Sagar 36, Ankush Boppanna 31) bt Doorvani Cricketers (1) 191 in 44.5 overs (Mohit Pimplapure 37, B. Srikanth 36, Preetham V. Khamkar 35 n.o., Roshan Ashwathaiah 29, Anirudha A. Joshi 3/31).

Malleswaram Gymkhana 162 in 47.4 overs (K.V. Bharat 37 n.o., Arnav Mishra 36, Anoop 3/18) bt Jolly Cricketers 150 in 40.5 overs (Nikhil 43, S. Samukh Prasad 40, Gaurov Shanbhag 5/33, Swastik S. Moolya 3/30).

Visweswarapuram CC (2) 252 in 47.5 overs (B. Tanu 74 n.o., Shoaib Manager 55, Nithin Gopalakrishna 49, H.R. Kiran 37, Abhilash Fernandes 3/33) bt Cavaliers CC 204 in 43.3 overs (Kaushik Nair 63, A.N. Shreyas 61, Prasanna Patilkulkarni 3/33).

Hammonds CC 180 in 47.4 overs (N.G. Kushal 51, Arvind 49, R. Darshan 4/25, Ronak Yelwal 3/30) lost to FUCC (2) 181/2 in 39.1 overs (Pranav R. Babu 80 n.o., S. Vishnu Varan 64).

Minerva CC 223/7 in 50 overs (J. Tejas 79, Arnav Arun Bharadwaj 44, Vignesh V.A. Sastry 30) bt RVCE 186 in 46.3 overs (V. Abhiram 46, Naveen Shankara 33, Pavanks 29).

Bangalore Sports Club 170 in 42.5 overs (Nilesh Khilare 39, M. Karthik 33, Sunil S. Kumar 32, Ramanji 3/19) lost to Engrades CC 171/6 in 43.5 overs (Abu 91 n.o., Ramanji 32, Karna Surya Vamshi 25).

Easy outing for United FC Kodagu

United FC Kodagu blanked GRK Girls FC 5-0 in the KSFA Women's A-div football league here on Wednesday.

The results: United FC Kodagu 5 (Thripthi S. Shetty 4, Mangpineng Khongsai 32, 60, Rachana Shetty 65, Meher Kaur Mehta 66) bt GRK Girls FC 0; Pass FC 4 (Ruksar Bana 24, Shanmuga Priya Selvaraj 53, Nivedha Elangovan 62, Vaishnovi Shetty 70+1) bt Young Star FC 0; BFC 3 (Rinsha Mariyam 21, Ruthu Srenandan 30, 36) bt Sporting Club 0.

Women's B-division: William Women's Academy 7 (Dawn Jospehine 20, Ether Mariam Joseph 25, 29, 31, 40, Arpitha Vijay 37, 38) bt GRK Glittering Stars 0.

KSFA Bangalore North and South c-division league: Jogo Bonito Scorers 2 (S. Pavan 39, 52) bt Karnataka Sporting Netwk FC 1 (S. Chetan 16).

Hanzala scores five as Excelsiors thumps Southern Blues

K. Md. Hanzala scored five goals as Excelsiors FC thrashed Southern Blues FC 7-1 in the BDFA C-div league here on Wednesday.

The results: Bangalore Kickers FC 4 (Sushil 16, Maniharan 27, 30+1, 46) bt Town FC, Hoskote 0; Excelsiors FC 7 (K. Md. Hanzala 3, 24, 32, 43, 45, Md. Afzal Beig 7, Md. Zeeshan 16) bt Southern Blues FC 1 (Shivakumar 37 O.G.); Pillanna Garden FC 3 (Abdul Razak 4, 22, D. Joshua Daniel 60+2) bt Vinayaka FC 1 (Md. Tayeeb Sharief 29); Bangalore Yellows FC 2 (Rithik Bhandary 41, Savio Alex Sanjay 57) bt Jupiters FC 1 (Chinnappa 24).

Royan nets Falcon HC's winner

Royan's 36th minute strike sealed the deal for Falcon HC as it beat Ashco HC 1-0 in the D.S. Murthy Memorial hockey tournament here on Wednesday.